

Hafa Adai!

COTA not selected for \$4.71M transportation grant.

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Hospital to purchase over 40 new hospital beds.

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# Saipan Tribune

75¢

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## 3RD CYCLE GRADUATES

MARK RABAGO

The Division of Customs' newest Customs officers pose with their certificates after completing basic customs training during a graduation ceremony held yesterday morning at the Governor's Office on Capital Hill.

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## CHC is sole provider for children with Medicaid

» **Muña: I think that CHCC should not be the only option**

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Children from low income families who are eligible for Medicaid benefits can only be treated at the Commonwealth Health Center due to a revised Medicaid state plan that limits the participation of private providers.

Private providers that once accepted children with Medicaid no longer accepts them because the state plan prohibits them from doing so.

According to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive of-

ficer Esther Muña, the hospital now has enough pediatricians and doctors to provide healthcare services to children.

CHC has six pediatricians and seven internal medicine doctors.

Marianas Medical Center and



Muña

Saipan Health Clinic confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they only accept Medicaid patients who are 18 years old and above.

Latest data from the CNMI Medicaid Office show that as of September 2014, over 7,000 children are either applicants or dependents under Medicaid.

See CHC on Page 4

## Inos en route back home

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gov. Eloy S. Inos may yet take part in the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Gubernatorial Forum tonight after acting press secretary Ivan Blanco confirmed that the CNMI Republic Party standard bearer is now en route to Saipan.

"He is out of the hospital [in the Philip-



Inos

See INOS on Page 4

## Still big turnout on 2nd day of early voting

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe was swamped again with voters yesterday, the second day of the seven-day early voting. This time, there was less crowding outside.

Commonwealth Election Com-

mission executive director Robert A. Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* last

» **Less crowding this time as voting process was well-organized**

night that there was still a big turnout on Saipan, with 590 early voters—just one less from Tuesday's 591.

Guerrero said he did not get the number of early voters for Tinian

and Rota yesterday.

The executive director said there

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Lucille P. Tenorio is this year's winner of the Live Your Dream award.

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Many owners of electric vehicles are powering their cars with sunlight.

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Cemeteries are becoming the haunts of choice for those in search of a good shiver.

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# Local

## COTA not selected for \$4.71M transportation grant

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

What could have been the start-up process in building a public

### Judge OKs deal with law firm to pursue claims vs Merrill Lynch

Designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood of the U.S. District Court for the NMI has approved the revised engagement agreement that NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C. H. Tang negotiated with a law firm that currently represents the claims against the NMI Retirement Fund's former consultant, Merrill Lynch.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she has reviewed the proposed agreements and finds good

cause to approve them. The proposed agreements refer to the parties' stipulation, assignment of claims agreement, and the engagement agreement with the Florida-based Levin law firm.

The Levin law firm represents individual claimants Mariano Taitano, Roman Tudela, and Patricia Guerrero who are pursuing the case against Merrill Lynch.

Tydingco-Gatewood earlier

transportation system on Saipan has been stalled after the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority failed to obtain a \$4.7 million grant.

Special assistant for public transportation Tom Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that COTA's application for the Transportation Investments

rejected the original engagement agreement with Levin law firm. This prompted Tang to renegotiate the deal.

Merrill Lynch was the Fund board's investment consultant until 2010. During the time of the consultancy relationship, the value of Fund's assets reportedly declined substantially.

Taitano, Tudela and Guerrero, through their other counsel O'Connor law firm, sued the Fund's board, Merrill Lynch,

Generating Economic Recovery Grant VI with the U.S Department of Transportation was not selected.

COTA's application for the and others in Superior Court, alleging various causes of action for damages relating to the decline of the Fund's assets.

The lawsuit in Superior Court was then stayed and the matter was submitted to arbitration before the Financial Industry Regulation Authority.

On Tuesday, Taitano, Tudela, and Guerrero transferred their claims against Merrill Lynch to the Settlement Fund. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Federal Transit Authority's Ladders of Opportunity grant was also not accepted, Camacho said.

The two grants were supposed to fund the acquisition of 11 vehicles and installation of 180 bus stops or transfer stations, and partially fund COTA's maintenance building as well as its collateral equipment.

"These two grants are highly competitive and there's more applications than the available funds to be awarded. Unfortunately, this unfavorable results have set us back in implementing the new Saipan Fixed-Flex Route System, which is targeted for implementation in 2015," Camacho said.

He said he will be meeting with his COTA team and the Commonwealth Public Transportation Advisory Board to talk about their other options.

The TIGER grant was submitted in April this year and COTA was supposed to receive notification from USDOT on or before September.

Camacho earlier said the TIGER grant will be used to buy eight 24-passenger low floor medium-built buses. Some \$450,000 would go to bus stop infrastructure. It will also be used for three transfer stations and one mobility hub for the fixed-flex route system. About \$185,000 was to be used to purchase transit technologies such as smart cards, GPS vehicles, radio, and PDA communications.



### Ghoulish Tricks & Decadent Treats

On 31 October 2014, from 6pm to 9pm, our Halloween dinner buffet will feature decadent treats such as a live cupcake decorating station, barbecue extravaganza and a "Hansel and Gretel's Witch Station". From themed games to costume contests, create memories in a night of spookiness and fun at Camp Hyatt for our younger guests\* from 6:30pm to 8pm.

Price: US\$48 per person. Club at the Hyatt® members are welcome. Buffet includes beer, wine, iced tea and a welcome non-alcoholic cocktail for our younger guests. Camp Hyatt is US\$15 per child (complimentary for children dining with their parents at our restaurants.)

\*Young guests aged 4 to 12.



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## 7 graduate from Customs basic training

By **MARK RABAGO**  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Division of Customs welcomed new officers to its fold after seven erstwhile trainees graduated from basic training yesterday with a simple ceremony at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

Graduates from the division's Third Cycle Customs Basic Training include now Customs officers Shawn Dela Cruz, Nacrina Kaipat, Rita Lizama, Joseph Muña, John Meco Sablan, Vicen-

te Teregeyo, and Nokki Saralu. The latter also received a plaque for hurdling K-9 training.

What also is impressive is that four of the seven new Customs officers—Sablan, Dela Cruz, Lizama, and Saralu—are also former Workforce Investment Act trainees.

Acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, and Customs director Jose C. Mafnas, attended the graduation rite.

"It's a great day, which is a step in the right direction. It's further

evidence on the efforts of this administration and the agency itself that they are very serious in going about the business of revenue collection and also to ensure contraband and other illegal stuff are intercepted," Hofschneider told reporters after the event.

Larson congratulated the seven graduates as well as Mafnas for welcoming new officers to his agency.

"We're very happy to be here today. This graduation is the culmination of a training initiative that we started at the Division of

Customs. It's very critical that our staff is very aware of the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth," Larson said. "These guys have been working hard the past several weeks and all of it is finally paying off. We have a new round of training completed and they're going to move into officer positions now."

The Finance secretary also lauded Customs for a 20.7-percent increase in collections in fiscal year 2014, correlating this trend to a beefed-up staff at Customs.

"The increase in Customs collections is something that we've

seen over the last year or so. It's a result of trainings like these. The staff is aware of what to look for, they have a better job of catching illegal activity because they understand their roles a lot of better because of trainings like these," Larson said.

Mafnas clarified that basic training didn't only involved learning about Customs regulations but also required trainees to cross-train with other government agencies.

"They went through 200 hours of training and the training provided was not only by Customs but also by the Division of Environmental Quality, Department of Public Safety, Office of the Public Auditor, Office of the Attorney General, and Revenue and Tax. These are agencies that we deal with whenever we intercept something that is under the responsibility of that agency."

He echoed what Larson said about more staff equating to more efficient Customs inspections.

"We can put more people on the line in container inspection or passenger inspection. The more manpower we have, the more we can scrutinize, let's say, containers. It really helps if you have adequate manpower. This is really adequate having these people here."

Saralu said he is relieved more than anything else after graduating from basic training yesterday.

"[It] feels so good because I'm done with 8-10 weeks of training. It's a relief and I'm very excited to be on the line and find contraband and make our islands a safer place. Just looking how life is here, crystal meth has taken a big toll in our islands and I just want to help," the son of police officer Elias "Jun" Saralu said.

The former Saipan Little League standout also finished K-9 handling training and has been handling his K-9 dog "Charlie" since August.

## Legislature ready to move in and regulate handguns

By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Legislature is answering the call from the Department of Public Safety to look at enacting legislation that will make it tougher for individuals to own handguns in the event a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the CNMI Weapons Control Act prevails.

Judiciary and Governmental Operations chair Rep. Chris Leon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said the House of Representatives and the Senate have no choice but pass a bill that will regulate handguns, which were previously outlawed by local statute.

"There's nothing we can do

but introduce legislation. We want regulation in place in the event this lawsuit prevails. I'm not in support of handguns. We have the best gun laws in the nation. Statesiders I know are often surprised that this is only place in America where handguns are outlawed. They're fascinated that we don't allow handguns here," Leon Guerrero said.

The 10-year DPS veteran said the House is already looking at a bill that will have strict qualifications for those applying for a handgun license.

"We don't need handguns to defend ourselves, but if this happens we want this regulated right away. It will be a very strict handgun law," said Leon Guerrero.

House Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said he already tasked Leon Guerrero as chairman of the JGO to work with the Senate in crafting a bill or amending the current law that will address the issue.

Additionally, Deleon Guerrero has also set a meeting with DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero next week to talk about the issue.

"Personally I oppose allowing handguns in the CNMI. We already have a low crime rate compared to other jurisdictions. I respect whatever the courts decide but at the same time we have the right to regulate our guns laws," he said, adding that several states in the U.S. have already banned assault and

semi-automatic weapons and that could be same course the Legislature will take.

Acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider said he has yet to weight in on the issue. "It's a very sensitive issue and we have to look at it as a whole so that we can be able to make the best decision for the welfare of the community as far as that's concerned."

David J. Radich, a U.S. Navy Gulf War veteran, and his wife have filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court challenging the constitutionality of the CNMI Weapons Control Act that prohibits all residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes. Radich's wife suffered serious injuries during a home invasion on Saipan in 2010.

Purpose Center.

Rangamar said his daughter later told him that it's overcrowded on Tuesday so he decided to just vote the following day, yesterday.

He said early voting is comfortable for sickly and elderly people like him.

Rangamar's common-law wife, Juliana Daikichy, 49, assisted him at the polling station.

Early voting for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will be done every day, even weekends, until Nov. 3, from 8:30am to 4pm. The early voting concept started in 2010.

## STILL

From Page 1

was no overcrowding yesterday because the flow of voters was continuous.

"It's much smoother since we opened this morning," he said.

Guerrero said even before they opened yesterday morning, many people were already waiting outside, but they were let in expeditiously.

"They don't have to wait as they did yesterday [Tuesday]," he said. "So far, everything is

okay... just routine stuff."

Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Jose Lifofoi and his wife, Cecilia, were among the early voters yesterday.

Lifofoi said they voted early because they're going to the Philippines on Friday to visit the grave of his wife's mother.

Lifofoi said it was his first time to vote early.

The Lifofoi couple described the voting process as smooth and well-organized.

"Early voting is good because you don't have to worry on Nov. 4," said Lifofoi.

Rafael Rangamar, 79, agreed that the voting was efficient and that he did not wait that long to be allowed in and cast his vote.

Rangamar said it's also his first time to vote early after learning about the early voting process from the newspapers. He said he told his daughter to bring him to the Multi-Purpose Center.

"I don't like a lot of people, crowded," said Rangamar who has been on a wheelchair for 15 years now. His original plan was to vote on Tuesday, the start of the early voting, so he sent his daughter that day to the Multi-

## CHC

From Page 1

The Medicaid Office confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they no longer have contracts with private clinics for children with Medicaid because CHC has pediatricians and is certified for it.

Those who once went to Marianas Medical Center, Pacific Medical Center, and Saipan Health Clinic to avail of Medicaid services for their children now have to go to CHC.

Families of many Medicaid children are, however, worried if the hospital could handle the increased capacity.

A mother of three in Dandan told *Saipan Tribune* she is worried because waiting to be seen by a physician at the public hospital could take hours.

"This is difficult because they cannot accommodate all patients and it will be okay if they

can. It takes too long. I don't agree that CHC should be the only one. The more the better," she said.

Another mother of two from China Town said she used to go to MMC for her children who are under Medicaid. She only found out about the changes when she called MMC for an appointment for her two children and MMC told her that they do not accept Medicaid for children anymore.

### CHCC says...

Muña said that, with the recent hire of several physicians, to certify that they do not have enough staff is inaccurate.

"We haven't certified that we have a staffing shortage. Because of that, [child Medicaid patients] don't have an option [to go to private clinics]. The only time they have an option is if CHC does not have [enough physicians]. That is what the state plan states," Muña said.

The revised state plan, which has been approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region 9, requires Medicaid patients to first seek treatment from CHCC and does not allow private clinics to provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries unless CHCC is not able to accommodate the patients.

Muña said that despite all this, she is closely monitoring the Medicaid situation.

"Even though I could not certify that we don't have the physicians—because we do have the physicians—I am closely monitoring to basically evaluate the situation," she said.

"I personally think that CHCC should not only be the option and I am actually looking into it," she added.

The whole purpose of the state plan was to help the Medicaid program meet its financial goals because they had a cash flow issue in 2012. Muña said that when she became CEO she

certified that they lacked staff, and that it was CHCC's ultimate goal to get more health-care providers.

"We were cited by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for not opening the clinic because we didn't have the staff. We were cited for not having a pediatric clinic and the whole goal was to have these physicians and we have them now," Muña said.

She said it is not her intention to stop Medicaid patients from seeing private providers.

"I want to be able to make sure that we do have an option for patients for whatever reason that they seek help and that we need to open up for private providers once again," she said.

She said in the next couple of weeks, she will look at the numbers and Medicaid-eligible numbers and expand it again and try to certify that other private clinics have that option to see Medicaid patients.

## INOS

From Page 1

piners] is what I heard. All I heard is he's en route. Details I do not have," said Blanco in a phone interview with *Saipan Tribune* last night.

Blanco, who is also the media officer of the local GOP, added that the governor is "doing well" and in the "recovery period" following a routine medial procedure in the Philippine capital.

While stopping short of guaranteeing that Inos will attend tonight's forum, Blanco, however, said that the governor is looking forward to joining his fellow candidates at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose this evening.

"He's really excited to do it. He wants to do it," said Blanco.

He said that Inos' attendance in the Chamber forum is entirely up to him and officials of the CNMI Republic Party.

"Not only me deciding, but the entire GOP election campaign team. You know when you're jetlagged, you're sleepy. He may be kind of tired from the flight and we don't want to force him to do it," Blanco said.

Inos' return has been one of the bigger water cooler topics in the run-up to the 2014 elections next week. It has already caused the Chamber to postpone last Monday the original date of its Gubernatorial Forum.

In an interview yesterday morning during the graduation ceremony for Customs officers, acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider said Inos was still off-island.

"The governor wouldn't miss this if he was on-island," adding that as to when the governor will return to the CNMI is up to his daughters and his physicians.

Chamber executive director Jill Arenovski said that, as of 7pm last night, only the camp of independent candidate Juan N. Babauta has confirmed participation in the forum.

John Reyes, the chairperson of the former governor's campaign, said that Babauta was prepared for Monday's Gubernatorial Forum and tonight's rescheduled event.

"The Babauta-Torres leadership is ready, willing, and able to participate fully in [last Monday's] scheduled debate, but yielded to the Chamber's suggestion to postpone the event in order to give the other candidates two more days' preparation time to participate in the rescheduled forum this Thursday, Oct. 30, 2014, at the same time."

Arenovski said the campaigns of former House speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider and Edward M. Deleon Guerrero are still undecided if they will attend the forum because of Inos' reported absence.

Arenovski, however, hopes that with news of Inos' return, the camps of Hofschneider and Deleon Guerrero will have a change of heart and take part in the debate.

The CNMI Democratic Party candidate for lieutenant governor, Danny Quitugua, in an interview before news broke that Inos is on a flight back to Saipan, said a scheduling conflict was the one of the reasons behind Deleon Guerrero not attending the Chamber event.

"We are approaching the 11th hour before the election. All the candidates, including the governor, have plugged in what they're going to do in preparation to D-Day. That particular day has already been booked," he said, alluding to the Democratic Party strategy meeting for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota as well as an orientation for poll workers and supervisors set for this evening.

Quitugua said Inos' absence is another reason why the Democrats are skipping the forum.

"One of the main reasons is also the absence of our governor. In respect to that unfortunate situation, the candidates thought rather than take advantage of his absence it would be better to reset it."



# Hospital to purchase over 40 new hospital beds

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is getting over 40 new beds, according to chief executive officer Esther Muña on Tuesday.

## » Three vendors selected and waiting on contract process



Muña

She said they have selected three vendors and they are still waiting on the contract to go through.

Muña said that they are purchasing two birthing beds from one vendor, 30 electrical beds plus 10 additional ones from another vendor, and two Intensive Care Unit beds that come with special type of cushions.

The bed purchase is made possible by the \$2.7 million

bond funds appropriated and signed into local law by Gov. Eloy S. Inos on July 9, 2014. Of that amount, \$250,000 was given to CHCC for the purchase of hospital beds. The 10 additional beds from one vendor was made possible through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant of \$50,000, which CHCC received on Aug. 6, 2014.

According to Muña, the expenditure authority for the \$250,000 was the Department of Public Works and the Commonwealth Development Authority did the certification of funds.

"We are excited to get these beds as soon as the contract is done and we have identified

the three contractors already," Muña said.

During the selection of proposals after CHCC put a bid out, a panel that included CHCC's medical director, hospital ad-

ministrator, and director of nursing reviewed the proposals from the three vendors.

Muña hopes to complete the purchase process by the end of November.

She said the 40 new electrical beds will replace majority of the hospital's old beds while the MP100 cushions will replace the mattresses of those beds that won't be replaced.

"I just want to let people know that we're not just sitting on the issue of the lack of beds but we are actually doing it. The process just takes time and the beds are coming," she said.

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## Drainage project seeks to revitalize Garapan; eliminate runoff pollution

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**  
dennis\_chan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's non-point source pollution team is working closely with the Department of Public Works to revitalize Garapan, Saipan's central tourist district.

"We are working very closely with DPW in cleaning up the storm drainages and monitoring [them], making sure the flow of water goes out and filters through this island," he said.

Unfortunately, Rabauliman said, in the past they found one major violation during monitoring of the storm drainages, where one establishment was found to have illegally tapped into a storm drainage instead of a sewage line for their waste.

Another similar incident happened about two weeks ago, according to BECQ'S David Rosario, when the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. discovered that one establishment had drilled through a stormwater pipe to connect to a sewer line.

The establishment was not penalized as there was no leaking of pipes, and the establishment has been since been notified not to connect through the storm drainage, according to Rosario.

"Everything is under control," he said.

The Garapan revitalization and water quality restoration and drainage project is one of the continuing projects of the local government to eliminate health hazards in the Saipan lagoon caused by stormwater discharge.

Along with improvements to streets and infrastructure to improve traffic flow, the project aims to make the area a vibrant place for tourists.

The area was described as

"polluted," with "unsightly drainage," and an immediate priority in the Capital Improvement Project office's 2016 grant request to the Office of Insular Affairs.

The project addresses the "single contributor to non-point source pollution" in the lagoon—an open ditch along the south boundary of Garapan that carries multiple waste discharges and roadway runoff directly into the lagoon, according to the project's problem statement.

The project will divert stormwater into an underground culvert and into a series of ponds that will allow for natural filtration, so that debris and sediments will not flow into the lagoon, according to the request.

Right now, the drainage ditch is not well designed to trap and remove sediment and debris, the request stated.

A conceptual study completed in August 2012 estimated the cost of the entire revitalization project at \$20.28 million.

For fiscal year 2016, the amount requested for the project is \$3 million.

In the interview, Rabauliman said that during heavy rainfall a lot of the sediments flow directly into the lagoon. He said red flags in the area happen often, particularly when it rains.

He said these are "absolutely" health hazards to the general public.

"We do our due diligence in making sure we alert the public...to stay 300 feet from this site, or any site," he said.

Garapan is the center of tourism on Saipan. Runoff into the lagoon is adjacent to three large resort hotels in the area, and can result in beach closures.

The project will also address air pollution caused by stagnant water in the area's open drainage, according to the project's problem statement.

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## Mitigation of reef damage ongoing for displaced corals

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
dennis\_chan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Bureau of Environmental Coastal Quality, the Division of Fish and Wildlife, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are still at work to mitigate the damage to the reef caused by the cargo vessel *Paul*

*Russ*' grounding in September, according to BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman yesterday.

Dislocated corals, as well as chip painting from *Paul Russ* attached to the corals in the grounding area were found during a survey conducted by BECQ's marine monitoring team, along with DFW.

He said NOAA is working with the vessel's representatives in possibly transporting the coral elsewhere, along with other mitigation work.

He said the responsible parties are doing the work of removing the paint chips and to reattach the dislodged corals.

In fact, he said, he believed

work was being done in the area during the time of the interview.

The "next step," according to Rabauliman, is "one more dive to make sure the work that has been done or is ongoing is pursuant to what our team instructed them to do."

"We obviously would like to have smooth collaborative work to protect corals as opposed to adversarial. Hopefully, the work will be done sooner rather than

later," he said.

Who will pay for the work being done? That "has yet to be determined," according to Rabauliman.

When asked, Rabauliman could not say whether the impact was extensive or minor as he did not have that information with him.

The cause of *Paul Russ*' grounding has yet to be reported. Lt. William White, public af-

fairs officer of the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, said last month that an investigation was ongoing.

*Paul Russ* was successfully towed out of the reef by tugboats belonging to its representatives last September, with no reported damage to hull or possible oil leaks.

Discovery of unexploded ordnance near the vessel forced the port to close for about a day.

## Rota petitions BOG, IT&E

By THOMAS MANGLONA II  
CORRESPONDENT

The people of Rota deserve equal quality customer service, according to resident Denise Tanya King.

King, who was instrumental in the replacement of a broken Bank of Guam ATM in the southern island's Songsong village,

created an online petition last week requesting the bank to install an ATM at the island's most populated village, Sinapalo.

Through the power of social media, King has made several Facebook posts about the issue and garnered 230 signatures for her online petition within 36 hours.

"The majority of the popu-

lation lives in Sinapalo and it only makes wise business sense to have the machine located there," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hundreds of Rota residents and off-island supporters have endorsed King's movement, saying they are "plainly sick and tired of receiving dirty seconds."

In an interview, King said she will be submitting the petition to Bank of Guam by the

end of this week.

In another more recent post on social media, King called on IT&E to improve its services in the southern island.

"The server on Rota cannot accommodate our [Public School System] students, postsecondary online college students, and community members," King said. "Due to a shortage of teachers on Rota, most, if not all, of our students

are taking classes online."

King noted that there is no institution of higher learning on island, which has resulted in many people taking online college courses to receive their degree.

"Our teachers even take certification courses to maintain their professional certification," she added.

Because of an insufficient server, she said, teachers and students frequently miss deadlines and submit late assignments.

"This causes unnecessary frustration and stress. This does not even take in account people on Rota who have Internet and must wait for hours

for connectivity."

King said that students must be a priority and hopes that the telecommunications company prioritizes them as well.

"We pay the same rates as Saipan and Guam and expect the same service," she said.

An IT&E representative contacted King yesterday requesting for more information so he could inform the company's chief executive officer of the concern.

One resident, who requested for anonymity, said she supports King and her efforts because "all we want is to improve the quality of life of our long ignored and oppressed people on Rota."

## NMI, Guam begin regulating social work, adopt ASWB licensing exam

The Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands and the Territory of Guam have joined the Association of Social Work Boards in order to administer the ASWB social work licensing exam as part of adopting new regulations for the social work profession. This is the first time that social workers will be regulated and licensed in these jurisdictions. The board of directors for ASWB, the nonprofit association of social work regulatory bodies in the U.S. and Canada that owns and maintains the licensing exams, accepted the application of both U.S. jurisdictions by unanimous vote.

"We are pleased to welcome

the Health Care Professions Licensing Board of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Guam Board of Social Work of the Territory of Guam as members of ASWB," said ASWB president Dorinda N. Noble, Ph.D., LCSW. "Professional regulation protects the public by ensuring that consumers have an avenue of recourse if practitioners step outside the boundaries of the rules, regulations, and ethics that guide our profession. The ASWB social work licensing exam ensures that social work professionals demonstrate their ability to practice competently and safely before becoming licensed."

The Northern Mariana Islands and the Territory of Guam form the Mariana Islands in the Pacific subregion of Micronesia. (*Association of Social Work Boards*)

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### DPW urges caution for motorists

The Department of Public Works through its contractor is conducting islandwide road marking and signage upgrade. The public is advised to exercise extra care while driving and be aware of workers along the roadway. The public is also advised that reasonable delays in their travel along or within the work areas as changes in traffic patterns may likely occur. (*DPW*)

#### Invitation to baseball tryouts

To all interested baseball players, Team Red Sox is inviting all divisions, Little League, Jr. League, Sr. League and Big League to come to our tryout/practice at The Airport Football Field at 5pm. Tryouts/practice is scheduled for Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We look forward to seeing you at the field. (*PR*)

#### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday Asinta Pangelinan! May God bless you with good health and we hope that you'll enjoy your special day. We love you. From the staff and management of Asins Fish Mart and Catering, Randall, JK, Luna, Noah, friends and most of all your family.



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#### MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

Political Science / American History  
Eastern New Mexico University

#### SENIOR EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business  
University of Pittsburgh, Katz School of Business  
Stanford University, School of Law  
International Institute of Research, Asset Allocation of Studies

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (BS)

American History

### EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor, Northern Marianas College  
CFO, Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation  
Publisher and Writer, Homeland Magazine  
Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
CNMI Washington, D.C. Representative to the United States  
Executive Director, State Health Planning & Dev. Agency  
Health Planner, New Mexico State Health Planning & Dev. Agency  
Vice-Chairman, Covenant Section 902 Negotiation  
Chairman Board of Education (PSS)  
Chairman Board of Regents (NMC)

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# Tenorio is SI-NMI's Live Your Dream awardee for 2014



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
From left to right Soroptimist International NMI treasurer Teresa Palacios, president Jill Arenovski, vice president Donna Krum, Live Your Dream recipient Lucille P. Tenorio, secretary Shelly Scott, and treasurer-elect Merle Hudkins.

A check for \$1,000 was awarded to Lucille P. Tenorio, this year's winner of the Live Your Dream award granted by the Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands club on Saipan. The event was held at the Nami Lounge of Kanoa Resort on Saturday evening, Oct. 25, and was hosted by Gallo Wines and Dickerson & Quinn. All proceeds benefited the SI-NMI club, whose main mission is to empower women through education. Tenorio's application will now advance to the Soroptimist Founder Region level, where recipients can receive up to an additional \$5,000.

Tenorio has three children (ages 13 years, 6 years, and 4 months old), is divorced, and is working toward her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with emphasis in Rehabilitation in Human Services. She wants to advocate to single mothers that it is never too late to get an education.

Seven applicants applied for this award, and judging was conducted by non-Soroptimist volunteers in accordance with the criteria set by Soroptimist

International of the Americas. All applicants met three criteria: 1) they are women, 2) they are currently attending college, and 3) they are the financial head of their household. This was the second annual Live Your Dream award (formerly the Women's Opportunity Award) for the recently chartered local SI-NMI club. This inspiring celebration was attended by club members, applicants, and other women from the island community.

The evening showcased two speakers. The first was Sylvia Crafton, a veteran of Soroptimist

International of the Marianas (one of the two Guam clubs). Crafton has been a Soroptimist for 23 years and gave members tips on how to grow a successful club and how to empower women in the local community. Crafton quoted actress Nicole Kidman, who serves as a spokeswoman for Unifem and put it best when she said, "If you help women, you help children and men. You help the family, because women are the heartbeat of the family."

Last year's award winner, Le'ah Murphy, gave an emotional speech about how the

\$1,000 she received helped her get through a very hard time at the end of her college education. She didn't give up and is now scheduled to head out and join the military so that she can further her education in the field of medicine. Her future is bright, and she is empowered and determined to make a better life for herself and her two girls.

Other SI-NMI projects in-

clude helping the residents of Guma Esperansa, the women's shelter, and speaking to high school students about persisting in the path to higher education and to a career. SI-NMI extends its sincere gratitude to Gallo Wines, Dickerson & Quinn, Kanoa Resort, Java Bakery and Creative Dreams for their generous donations to this event.

For more information on So-

roptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands club, e-mail [sinorthernmarianaislands@so-roptimist.net](mailto:sinorthernmarianaislands@so-roptimist.net) or call 287-9395. (SI-NMI)

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This advertisement was paid for with federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services.

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# Man in a sham marriage gets 1-day sentence

Md. Shahadat Hossain, a Bangladeshi man who pleaded guilty in connection with a sham marriage case, was sentenced to a one-day prison term in federal court Tuesday afternoon.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona gave the 45-year-old Hossain credit for time served.

Hossain was placed on one year of supervised release. Among the conditions of his supervised release is that he shall serve 50 hours of community service, pay a \$100 special assessment fee, and shall be deported.

Michael N. Evangelista, court-appointed counsel for Hossain, said his client wishes

to leave the Commonwealth as soon as possible. Evangelista recommended a sentence of time served.

Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton recommended a sentence of probation or time served.

Manglona granted the prosecution's motion to dismiss the remaining charges against Hossain.

The defendant signed a plea deal with the U.S. government in June and pleaded guilty to lying to federal authorities. Hossain lied to Homeland Security Investigations special agents when he said he lived with his then-wife, Rosita Hossain, since December 2011. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 30, 2008

### PSS, CUC agree that PSS owes \$1.3 million

After reconciling their records, the Public School System now concedes that it owes the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. more than \$1.3 million. The two entities reconciled their records after CUC executive director Antonio Muña said PSS owed the utility company \$1.8 million in overdue debt. PSS officials had denied they owed any money until the Saipan Tribune, via the Open Government Act, looked at billing records and statements and discovered they owed the money. Muña had said the money from PSS, along with \$1.6 million due from the CNMI government, would help pay for the \$6-million Aggreko generators, including the \$504,000 that was due earlier this month.

### Jurors deliberate in medical malpractice complaint

Six jurors in the Superior Court started deliberations yesterday on a medical malpractice lawsuit filed by a police officer and his wife against the Commonwealth Health Center over a failed vasectomy surgery. The deliberation began shortly after the plaintiff and the defense completed the closing arguments in the lawsuit filed by Police Officer Eric David and his wife, Tanya. A motions hearing was set yesterday afternoon before Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo. Attorney George Hasselback is counsel for the David couple. Assistant Attorney General David Lochabay is representing CHC and the CNMI government. The couple, together with their child, lodged in 2004 the lawsuit against Dr. John Yarofalir, who allegedly performed the vasectomy surgery on the officer sometime in 2004.

October 30, 2004

### Labor vows to pursue probe vs employer

An employer who was found operating without a business permit and permanently barred from hiring alien workers is not out of the woods yet. The Department of Labor Hearing Office issued an order yesterday closing a compliance agency case against Green Star Co. Ltd.; the hearing office, however, did not preclude the filing of other cases against the company. "This agency case is hereby closed, without prejudice to the department's right to pursue other remedies based on further investigation," hearing officer Jerry Cody said in an Oct. 29 administrative order. When a case is dismissed without prejudice, the complainant may be allowed to bring a new suit on the same claim. The agency case was heard last Tuesday.

### Senate OKs homestead permit protection bill

The Senate has passed a bill prohibiting the government from revoking homestead permits after three years if the area lacks basic infrastructure such as water, power, and sewerage systems. House Bill 14-206 amends the existing law, which gives homesteaders only three years to develop and reside in the lot "without any consideration of the availability of electrical power, water or sewer services." If the homesteader fails to build a home within the required period, the government can take back the lot. The bill, authored by Rep. Janet Maratita, provides that the Marianas Public Lands Authority may revoke a permit if the homesteader has not fulfilled the requirements after three years.

October 30, 2006

### Police probe man's death in Koblerville

Police are investigating the death of a 46-year-old man who was found early Friday morning lying on the floor inside his house in Koblerville, a few hours after he had an argument with his girlfriend. The victim, a Marshallese, was transported by medics to the Commonwealth Health Center. A doctor pronounced him dead at 4:34am, according to the Department of Public Safety yesterday. DPS acting spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. said investigators are looking at suicide by hanging, but have not confirmed this as of yesterday. "Any other aspects of the case has not been ruled out," Blas said.

### Tydingco-Gatewood named chief judge of Guam's district court

History was made in Guam yesterday morning when Frances Tydingco-Gatewood became the first Chamorro woman to be named Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam. Tydingco-Gatewood was sworn into office by the Hon. Mary M. Schroeder, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, before a capacity crowd at the Courthouse in Anigua, Guam. Tydingco-Gatewood joins an elite group that includes the CNMI's first Chamorro female judge, Virginia Sablan Onerheim and Republic of Belau's first Palaun female justice, Kate Salii.



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# Calvo repeats win in Sengebau poetry competition



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja board president and 7th/8th grade class adviser Edward Maratita Jr., Angelo S. Lucero, Tyra Reese A. Calvo, and Sengebau coach and 4th/5th/6th grade class adviser Mary Rose S. Lucero pose in front of a portrait of the late Valentine N. Sengebau.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Competition was held on Oct. 22, 2014, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theater on Saipan.

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja participated in the Junior Division, where junior high/middle school students must recite a poem from Sengebau's book, *Microchild*. The poem must be from the Cultural Identity, Politics, or Images sections, and students are asked to give

a 1- to 3-minute introduction explaining why he or she chose the specific poem.

In its second year of competing, Tyra Reese A. Calvo repeated as champion.

"It is my last year and I will be graduating in May 2015. I want to represent ESFDB and the Rota community the best I can. And I brought back the perpetual trophy to my school and to my island," said Calvo.

"I want to thank the Almighty God for the gifts to succeed in

life; to my loving grandparents for their continued love, care, and support; to our principal Carmen Atalig for her support and faith in me; to my language arts teacher and coach Mary Rose Lucero for her guidance and supportive role in my journey at ESFDB; to my class adviser Edward Maratita Jr. for your advice, support, and mentorship; and to Angelo Lucero, you gave me a scare and I hope you defend the title next year. You are all the greatest!" added Calvo.

According to the school's Sengebau coach, Lucero, "I'm overwhelmed. It's all very exciting because Tyra and Angelo did well and brought honor to the school and the Rota com-

munity. It's an amazing feeling to be able to see our students do something they love and perform in front of people.

"I praised Tyra for the dedication and hard work she put in to defend her title," said administrator-principal Carmen H. Atalig. "Next year, there are a lot of potentials in our students that can defend Tyra's title and were looking forward to it."

"Poetry is something that is meant to be shared and I think Mrs. Atalig and Mrs. Lucero did an incredible job implementing the program because the student were able to share poetry and really bring the message of the poem and the poet to life," said school board president Edward Maratita Jr. (*ESFDB*)

## Ghoulish tricks and decadent treats at the Hyatt Regency

All Hallows' Eve at Hyatt Regency Saipan will be filled with ghoulish tricks and decadent treats tomorrow, Oct. 31, 2014.

A decadent spread of treats will await daring diners on All Hallow's Eve at Kili Café & Terrace, from 6pm to 9pm. A frightening buffet will include Jell-O crawlers, heaven-and-hell cake, a live cupcake decorating station and a barbecue extravaganza. Kili Café & Terrace will also host a "Hansel and Gretel's Witch" station, which will offer kids' favorites such as grilled ham and cheese, crispy fried chicken, spaghetti "squids" and pepperoni pizza.

The price is \$48 per person,

Club at the Hyatt members are welcome. Buffet includes beer, wine, iced tea and a welcome non-alcoholic cocktail for younger guests.

That same day, ghoulish tricks await kids at Camp Hyatt, from 6:30pm to 8pm. Club Elan invites everyone to participate in ghoulish tricks that our younger guests (ages 4 to 12) are sure to enjoy. From themed games to costume contests, guests will make unforgettable memories during this night of spookiness and fun.

The price \$15 per child (complimentary for children dining with their parents at any of our restaurants). (*Hyatt*)

## 7 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged seven Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites are the DPW Channel Bridge, Hyatt Regency, San Roque School, Plumeria Hotel, South Puerto Rico Dump, Central Repair Shop, and Micro Beach.

Samples collected from these

locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (*DEQ*)

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# Opinion

Hafa Adair!

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## Another American released from North Korea, so why not Kenneth Bae?

**N**orth Korea's decision this week to free American Jeffrey Fowle revives hope for the release of former Washington state resident Kenneth Bae.

Bae, 46, is one of two Americans still held captive by the communist country. First arrested on Nov. 3, 2012, he is the longest-detained U.S. prisoner since the Korean War. The former tour operator and father of three was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor for allegedly plotting to overthrow the regime. In an Aug. 14 Time magazine report, Human Rights Watch denounced the decision as an overly harsh method of punishment.

On Tuesday, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said diplomats "remain focused on the continued detention of Kenneth Bae and Matthew Miller, and again call on the (North Korean government) to immediately release them."

U.S. officials are actively engaged behind the scenes, but that is little consolation for Bae's family in the Edmonds area.

Family members just want Bae released so he can receive medical attention for serious back and heart problems.

In court, Bae admitted to committing the crimes he was charged with. Bae's sister, Terri Chung, is hoping that will lead to Bae's release soon.

"We know that the (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) wants to be fair and has recently shown signs that it desires to engage with other nations," Chung said in a public statement. "We hope DPRK leaders will have mercy on my brother to show goodwill to our family and to the world."

Since the U.S. has no formal diplomatic relations with the North Korean government, Swedish diplomats are negotiating on its behalf. Harf says the Swedish diplomats played a major role in Fowle's release. This continues to be a vital connection in communicating with Pyongyang officials, whose motives remain unclear.

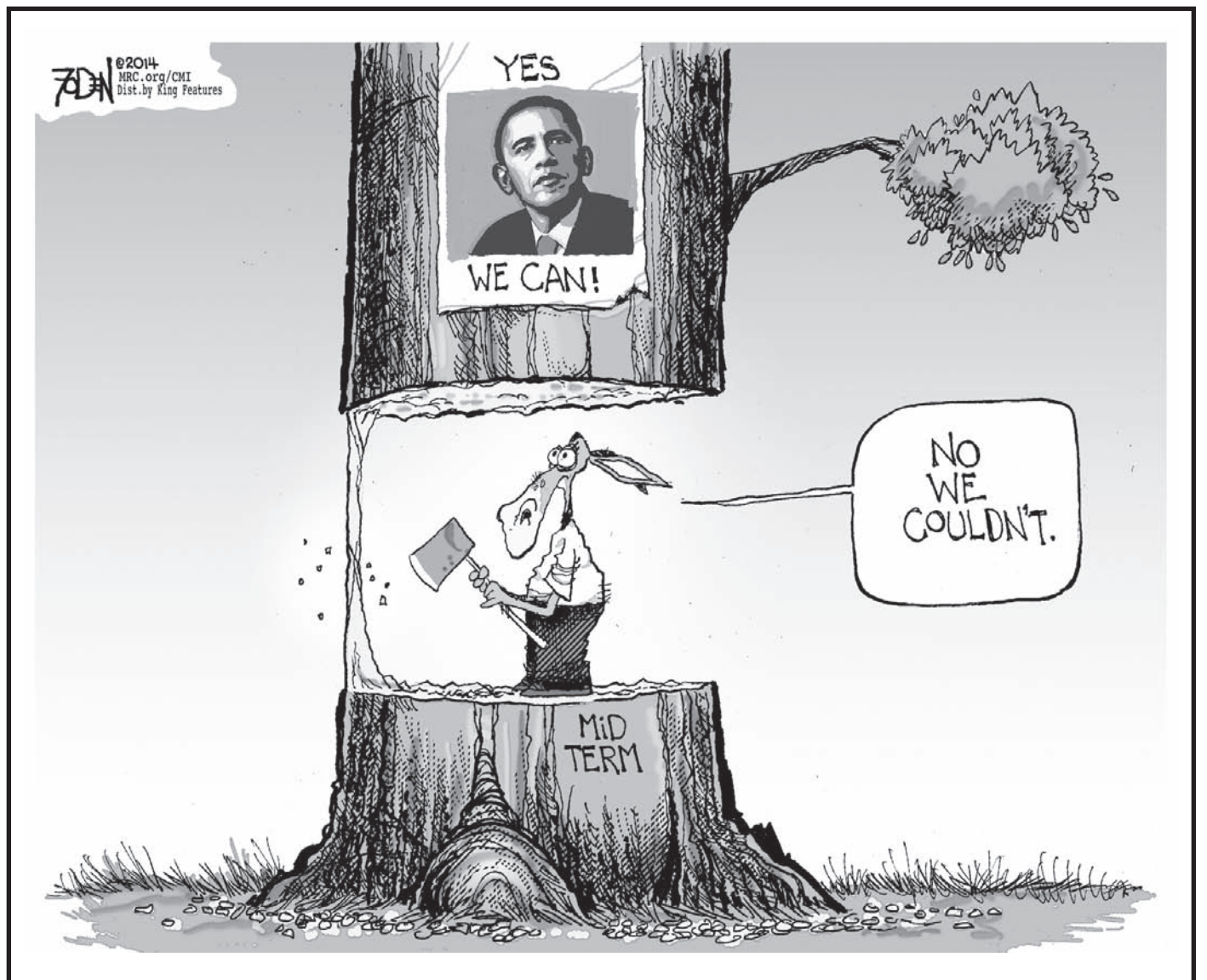
The reclusive regime's willingness to allow a U.S. military plane to enter and transport the 56-year-old Fowle out of the country—reportedly in exchange for nothing—is a promising sign.

Imprisoning Kenneth Bae serves no real purpose.

The next carrier out of Pyongyang should include the remaining Americans.



Kenneth Bae



## A hoodie day

**N**o, this is not a tribute to Trayvon Martin and the hoodie. It is a cold day in Dong Bei and the children by the playground are wearing mitts and neck scarves, and yes, the hoodie is up. The sun is out alright but while its rays hit me on the second floor of my building straight to my solarium, the building across shades the park where the children play and the guardians huddle in the benches.

My retirement motto says, "Monday to Saturday, I do nothing. Sunday is my day of rest!" It is a Hoodie Sunday.

Knowing human nature to always see the grass greener on the other side, those basking in the sun on Saipan would detest my description of the cold while they sweat it out midday, or fan themselves with the afternoon breeze that blows in from the lagoon. I, too, am in the same bandwagon of delusion, thinking that anywhere other than where I am must be better. But I have grown old enough to know what a terrible illusion that is.

Meanwhile, the transiting Pinay nurses who already settled their NCLEX and are waiting for their visas to Canada while putting in a couple of years at CHC browse through the jackets offered in the T Galleria, often grabbing many items on sale when a shop discards old inventory to accommodate incoming ones. I once saw a closet full of attires one would not be caught wearing even in December in one of the hotels that lowers the temperature for effect. Later, in Sherbrooke or Quebec, or St. John's in Newfoundland, it will be fashionable to put up the hood but looks awkward on Middle Road, Garapan.

My retired schoolteacher neighbor in Shenyang already has her northern China leeks laid out on the ground next to the napa cabbage that will make great hot and sour soup in the cold, though with natural cold and refrigeration available I still do not understand the culinary necessity of drying both into flakes just for preserving the items.

Across the Yalu, the napa cabbage is the main ingredient for the famous *kimchi* and I understand why they ferment them in big jars on the ground in autumn. It not only preserves the vegetable but also the heavily spiced variety is not only a delight in the palate but also an internal inferno of warmth in the cold. Eaten in moderation, the *kimchi* is a requisite side dish in Saipan's eateries if the olfactory trail does not offend. (Enclosed dining rooms in the starred hotels forego the dish to avoid the smell, or assign you a table by the porch!) It can only delight the tourists from Japan, Korea, and China!

It is the flakes of the dried leeks that are a subtle flavor savored by tongue licks on the discriminating palate. The romp of the gourmet on this one is a slow boat to China, not to be rushed down the Chiang Jiang through the rapids of the Three Gorges Dam. Yunnan

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



spices tend to dominate and overwhelm, and Sichuan reds tend to have someone see red. But the onion flakes of the leeks dried in the sun require the disciplined concentration of the *samurai* consuming his geisha tea, properly rotated and ceremonially served, before giving a slurp on the *shirataki*.

One might get the impression that when confined indoors on a hoodie day, one indulges in the fine points of cuisine. One can't stray too far afield with the rice and wheat noodles and dumplings in northeast China as a main offering before dipping the chops into the hot pot, the all-purpose boiling water where the raw ingredients laid on the side are cooked and sauced accordingly. The broiling variety is the preferred mode outdoors in the summer but the *Zhongguoren* is *sabi* (casually used to mean "crazy," though the word is also literally sexual) enough to unfold his tables and chairs outside in the afternoon before the snow comes, the charcoal adding haze into the smoke and fog of the ambience.

The "hoodie" though is the democratizing leveler in many grounds these days, whether it is the gym sweatshirt in Gualo Rai, gone thicker with long sleeves north of the Tropic of Cancer, or the hoods that comes along with any decent winter jacket to protect one's earlobes from freezing Siberian winds. Unlike residents in the windy city of Chicago, dealing with the cold is not to get out of it but to learn how to be in it. Many store personnel in Shenyang bring their wares out in the sidewalk, put their hoods to match lipstick and legging, and hawk their goods to the pedestrian market.

The point of our musing is deciding to live in the richness of the location one lives in rather than hope to be elsewhere. A Finnish friend once narrated how a new couple retreated to the Lapp lands in the '60s to avoid modern incursion into their lives until the Russian military started maneuvers in the area. They moved to Barrows, Alaska but not too long after, the derricks came to gush the oil. They looked for another place and located paradise in the Atlantic some 30 degrees south latitude of the Tropic of Capricorn. They discovered the Falklands! So did the armies of UK and Argentina.

Enjoy your hoodie day!



# Disintegration of the GOP

The exponential increase in the number of people running independently over traditional parties is an historic new. It's a tale that speaks volumes of the loss of trust in the traditional party system.

The local GOP (Republican) is split four ways while Democrats far less severely. The latter has worked on rebuilding itself. The former simply disintegrated recently.

There used to be the Independent Republicans—folks who bolted the GOP last year when the Covenant group joined the GOP. The latter didn't quite enter the GOP pasture. It stood at the fence, turned around and followed others out the door, disgruntled. It's another significant drain in base support.

It (Independent Republicans) had no trust in the former governor it impeached without blinking. It was furious at the lack of transparency that it equally ignored in the casino issue. It became strange bedfellows with the GOP on the casino issue. Interesting twist of events, huh?

Two other key Republicans bolted the party, separately pulling out more of the GOP base supporters. So it's a four-way disintegration where the chickens of GOP disunity would come home to roost before sailing permanently into the sunset.

One gubernatorial independent tandem has worked the villages since two years ago. Its message has resonated superbly well with voters all over the archipelago. It's a silent though powerful storm that would take its victory lap come Wednesday morning.

You would think that the disintegration of the GOP would be a boon for Democrats. But it (Democrats) has a long way to go to regain the strength it used to enjoy some three decades ago.

Republicans have followed suit and it would be years before it could mend differences (if at all) to attempt rebuilding foundational unity. It's gone since the ill-fated marriage with disgruntled Covenant loyalists and the departure of former independent GOP.

Why the boom in the number of independent candidates? This was triggered by the realization that the old party system has lost its fervor working for "we the people." No longer are they "public servants" but self-proclaimed "masters" as to trash the sentiments and interest of the people they represent on the hill. This isn't repre-

sentative democracy. While Democrats have started reinventing itself, the GOP has perfected its newfound toy of complete disintegration or disunity. The GOP may be in self-denial in the loss of its political base but the impending trip to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 4, should bear this fact out.

## On land leases in NMI

The term "stability" seems the key word in the "rain and fire dance" to extend land leases to 99 years. Sounds like a perfect straw, but there's a lot wrong with it. It definitely requires reasoned analysis beyond the usual myopia.

The exodus of investments from the NMI in recent past had nothing to do with the terms and conditions of land leases. It's hip political excuses for fear of probing the real reality behind the economic mess at home. We opted to walk the path of ignorance, only to nail ourselves to our own cross. It's one sterling performance meriting some strange award from the heavens.

The departure of major investors became a wildebeest—follow the leader to the gate—where key players quickly decided to think with their luggage. They headed to jetways and left. They took all their money that drained the NMI of more than \$7 billion that used to be recycled locally.

The survival of a business is based largely on how well it's propped to move about from day one that it hits the ground running. Decline in the general atmosphere of investment here has contributed to everything basically coming to a screeching halt. The drop in major businesses that took to the jetways has nothing to do with the terms and conditions of land leases.

Therefore, it doesn't hold that longer land leases would trigger re-investment, business expansion or survival here. It's simply an excuse without foundation.

The investment landscape is heavily ruined so how do you kick-start it when most businesses have put on shutters and gone elsewhere to explore business-friendly venues? We sit by the roadside quizzing why the exodus. Wasn't it triggered by forging all the wrong policies wrapped in arrogance?

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Personally, land leases should be limited to 25 years based on the terms of bank loans. It should be a business relationship determined by both the landowner and business entity. In brief, if the business thrives then both sides win. But if it folds, a 100-year lease isn't going to serve as a scaffold of fiscal salvation.

## Misunderstood landownership

Large exogenous—capital from without—investment portfolios have been presented to the NMI, most of which require huge parcel of public land and billions of dollars to emplace basic infrastructure needs.

Marpi, Puntan Diablo and Matua Bay on Tinian and Garapan Lagoon are examples where investors have expressed interests for investment purposes. Good plans that fail due diligence, again!

Caveat: Public land, no matter where it is situated, belongs to the "entire indigenous people" of these isles. It doesn't belong to just a certain community or the "we few" loud activists. Is legislative disposition the final answer?

Therefore, the review of the proposed use of any public land can't be limited to the voice of the loudest bunch. There has to be full and extensive public review on all three inhabited islands to secure the sentiments of the indigenous people. This must be understood by one and all!

There are fundamental issues warranting a more reasoned review process. It includes whether the planned investment (employing the prevailing foreign-investment paradigm) would benefit the indigenous people on a long-term basis. If so, can investors and policymakers explain with greater detail and clarity how such investment would benefit us beyond dirt-cheap land leases?

# Vaccine ignorance—deadly and contagious

By LAURIE GARRETT and MAXINE BUILDER  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the absence of credible, strong political leadership, paranoia about disease can go viral. We've seen this happen around the world with a wide range of illnesses, from swine flu to SARS to Ebola.

And even after threats are addressed, a new form of conspiratorial thinking often emerges, this time focused not on the microbes but on the tools used to keep the germs at bay—especially vaccines.

Since 2008, the Council on Foreign Relations has been collecting data and publishing weekly updates on an interactive map of vaccine-preventable diseases, and the map is now robust, dense with six years of data. One terrible truth stands out: Misinformation and rumors from just one persuasive voice, delivered effectively, can derail entire immunization campaigns and persuade millions of parents to shun vaccinations for their children.

In 2007, Maulana Fazlullah, who currently heads the Pakistani Taliban, went on Pakistani radio and denounced vaccinations as a conspiracy of Western nations to render Muslims infertile. A few years before that, a handful of political and religious leaders in Nigeria advocated the boycotting of polio vaccinations, claiming the products were contaminated with sterilization agents, HIV or cancer. In both cases, the misinformation resonated with parents.

In Nigeria, mothers refused immunization for their babies and the number of polio cases there doubled in just a year, going

from 355 in 2003 to 782 in 2004. It has taken years to recover the lost ground in West Africa, with Nigeria finally reporting only six cases this year.

In Pakistan, the so-called Radio Mullah's exhortations also found an audience, and he was given an assist in 2011 with the release of the American movie "Zero Dark Thirty," which falsely connected the CIA to an oral polio vaccination ruse that was part of an attempt to catch Osama bin Laden.

In reality, the CIA used a false hepatitis B vaccination scheme in hopes of injecting children inside the compound in which it was believed that Bin Laden was hiding, and then testing the syringes for evidence of his genes. The fake vaccine effort failed when the immunizer was denied access to the Bin Laden children. But the movie's incorrect linking of it to polio immunization heightened existing mistrust in Pakistan and provided the Taliban with "evidence" that its anti-immunization campaign had merit.

Today, vaccinators and healthcare workers providing lifesaving interventions are targeted for bombings and assassinations, and children in Pakistan are suffering. Our interactive map clearly demonstrates the correlation between an increase in Taliban propaganda and assaults on health workers and the resurgence of polio. Worse, recent outbreaks of polio and other vaccine-preventable diseases in the Middle East have been linked to Pakistani-trained combatants who have carried pathogens to Syria and Iraq, along with their anti-immunization ideology.

And anti-vaccine sentiments aren't limited to the developing world. The effects of Andrew Wakefield's now thoroughly debunked 1998 Lancet study claiming links between vaccinations and autism are still being felt in the Western world, as can be seen

in our interactive map. Outbreaks of pertussis in wealthy California communities, of mumps in Ohio college towns and of measles throughout the United Kingdom demonstrate the broad impact of the anti-vaccination movement.

In light of the paranoia evoked by Ebola, political and public health leaders must appreciate that not a single voice dispensing misinformation should go unchallenged. The general public has proved its inability to weigh facts accurately and reach a rational conclusion when fear clouds its judgment. Remarkably, in the case of the purported associations between autism and vaccines, the concept has gone viral in some of America's most highly educated and wealthy communities, as has unscientific advice about delaying certain immunizations to avoid "vaccine overload."

Too many political leaders around the world have either fanned the flames of fear or have shrugged off responsibility for dispelling them, assuming that countering conspiracies and false worries is a job for doctors and public health officers.

In Islamabad, Abuja and Sacramento alike, political leaders need to confront false fears. Every baby who has died of pertussis in California, been paralyzed by polio in Pakistan or suffered from measles in the United Kingdom represents a tragedy that might have been prevented.

Laurie Garrett is senior fellow for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations and the author of I Heard the Sirens Scream: How Americans Responded to the 9/11 and Anthrax Attacks. Maxine Builder is a research associate for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

## LITERARY NOOK

### Old-fashioned orange October (a sonnet on it)

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

now orange October, a pumpkin cliché  
plump turkeys are destined for super marts  
as November gets near—short grows their day  
autumnal dirges now tear through their hearts  
vegetarians cook firm soybean curd  
basted turkeys in the oven roasting  
hot juicy giblet gravy from the bird  
mashed potatoes for dinners we're hosting  
harvest brings an abundance of things nice  
fresh apple cider jugs chill in the frost  
gingerbread and pumpkin pies filled with spice  
covered with whipped cream regardless the cost  
candy, cookies and other sweet delights  
will end October's jack-o-lantern nights

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Honoring Tony Pellegrino

Mr. Tony Pellegrino was our idol among all the different writers to the editor. He was always of great benefit to our community. He put in a lot of effort to develop the trade skills of the youth. He was at the very beginning of organizing today's Saipan Water and Ice, the shrimp farm, the ferry route to Managaha and back, etc. A big number of poor people remember Mr. Pellegrino for his positive deeds, each time bringing ease to someone in need.

He passed away more than a year ago. His memory is still alive, with his water company running, the ferry functioning, and his educational center educating those who are hungry for professional knowledge.

Good members of our community should be remembered properly because their lives and achievements are part of our history and culture, part of today's economy and prosperity. People with capaci-

ties should know that their merits are going to be kept in future generations' minds, one way or another. Our respect for them should be made concrete by keeping their names with us all the time.

We want to ask our society to take some steps in this direction for Mr. Pellegrino. His professional education center could be renamed the Marianas Pellegrino Professional Education Center. Pelligrino Ferry Service, Pellegrino Water Company, Pellegrino water brand sound reasonable. One of the new streets could be named Pellegrino Street. Why not?

There is no other way to a better future than cultivating our best people. Doing good should be profitable. And prestigious when we face eternity! Thanks in advance to our powers-that-be for their future steps in keeping good people's memory alive.

Teddy Guiao

Navy Hill, Saipan


Milan Fargo


Garapan, Saipan





# The Weather


## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

**TODAY**  
  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.  
▲86° ▼75°

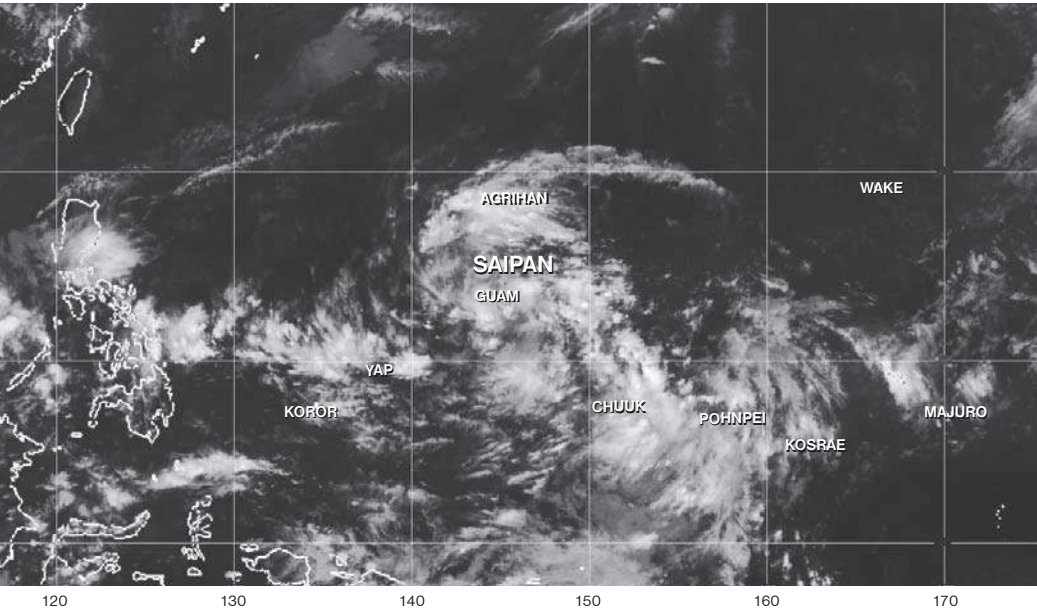
**FRIDAY**  
  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.  
▲86° ▼75°

**SATURDAY**  
  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.  
▲87° ▼76°

**SUNDAY**  
  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.  
▲87° ▼77°

**MONDAY**  
  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.  
▲88° ▼77°

## Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2014**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends east-northeastward from near 8N130E through a weak circulation centered west of Chuuk near 9N143E then continues eastward through a second circulation centered northwest of Pohnpei near 8N158E to end beyond the dateline at 8N. Another trough heads northeastward from the first circulation to a third weak circulation centered east of the Marianas near 15N149E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found with the third circulation over and east of the Marianas within 150 miles of a line from 10N147E to 16N147E to 19N145E. Similar conditions are also present north of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within 120 miles of a line from 7N163E to 13N155E to 9N153E and south of Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei south of a line from 1N139E to 6N146E to 6N155E to 3N158E. Isolated thunderstorms are seen north of Koror and Yap to near Guam within 60 miles of a line from 12N131E to 13N145E. Scattered showers exist north and east of Majuro within 150 miles of a line from 11N169E to 8N179E. A shear line extends west-southwestward from 22N180 to just south of Wake Island near 16N167E. Extensive cloudiness, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are within 130 miles of a line from 15N167E to 21N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Rain	▲83	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼81

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Windy	▲62	▼56
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼50
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼74
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼75
London	Showers	▲58	▼56
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼60
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼75
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼51
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼70
New York	Showers	▲68	▼49
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼61
Paris	Showers	▲64	▼52
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲69	▼56
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼48
Salem	Cloudy	▲64	▼55
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼57
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼51
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼57
Washington, DC	Showers	▲65	▼47

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
6:59 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.1 Feet
2:16 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
8:03 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:12 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	6:13 AM	5:49 PM
Friday	6:13 AM	5:49 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Sunday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	11:38 AM	11:28 PM
Thursday	12:29 PM	
Friday	1:19 PM	12:26 AM
Saturday	2:08 PM	1:24 AM
Sunday	2:55 PM	2:22 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 9, 2014

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			
DL287	6:05am	11:30pm	2, 6 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C 3401	2:20pm	6:30pm	5, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
7C 3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764A	4:00am	8:00am	4, 7
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:20pm	Daily via NRT
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	2, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:20am	12:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:50am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:40pm	7 via ICN

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL298	4:30am	3:05pm	3, 7 via NRT
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C 3402	8:00am	1:25pm	5, 7
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
7C 3402	9:30am	2:55pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:35pm	1,5 via GUM
PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:20pm	1, 5 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	1:30am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/5038	11:30pm	2:50pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	11:30pm	2:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5041	11:30pm	6:35pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5043	11:30pm	10:20pm+1	5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:40am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ750/603	1:40am	2:20pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 6 via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ724/605	1:50pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	9:15am	2 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5041	9:55pm	6:35pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA180/5043	9:55pm	10:20pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:20am	12:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:50am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:40pm	7 via ICN

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily



# Land cover change study may lead to future impact studies

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
dennis\_chan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Data derived from a recent land cover change project on Saipan can be used to address other questions like the impact of human activities on water quality, watershed management, and sustainable development on Saipan, according to Dr. Yuming Wen of the Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific University of Guam in his report on the project.

In an interview, Wen, who led the project, noted significant urban development in the Kagman watershed as examples of some of the data collected during this year's project.

He pointed to most change occurring in Kagman, the southern part of Saipan, some development on the west coast, but not a significant amount on the northeast coast of the island.

Over 30 years of land cover change were assessed by the project, according to Wen.

Land cover information was derived from Landsat MSS imagery of Oct. 17 and Dec. 10, 1978.

Wen said the two shots were needed, as one did not cover the whole island. There were problems with some of images due to cloud and shadow cover. Also, programs like the ArcGIS Desk-

top and ERDAS Imagine were used to correct displaced parts of the image. In the end, according to Wen, the two images were mosaicked to create one image.

In his report, the image was processed to collect land cover classification, and five general classes were detected: forest, grassland, urban, water, and cloud or shadow.

The 1978 image was then compared with two images from an ASTER satellite taken in 2009. These were also mosaicked as well as one shot did not include part of northern Saipan.

While the images had faults, they were the "best data he could get" from the U.S. Geological Survey for the project, according to Wen.

Comparing the two data sets, Wen found that Saipan was mainly covered by forest and grassland both in 1978 and 2009.

Forest area increased 47.4 percent or about 2,765 hectares from 1978 to 2009. Grasslands decreased by about 2,765 hectares, or about 54 percent, according to the report.

"Built-up/urban area" increased about 908 hectares or 63.7 percent during the same period, according to the report.

Most of these increased urban areas occurred in forest and

grassland.

Of the 11 watersheds on Saipan, Kagman Watershed was noted for its "many development activities" from 1978 to 2009.

Urban area about doubled, increasing about 191 hectares, according to the report.

Forest area increased by about 151 hectares, or 20 percent, and grassland decreased by about 333 hectares or about 54.2 percent.

Wen said the "next step" after this project would be to look at water quality in wells, for example. He said that more people moving into a watershed area might affect the water quality there.

WERI may possibly look if there is a relationship between water quality and human activity in the studied areas in a project next year, according to Wen.

If water quality is found to poorly affect communities, the island may need to find ways to reduce human activity, he said.

"We are dependent on underground water resources. We need to protect water quality on Saipan," he said.

Also ongoing under WERI is the development of a geographic information system model for groundwater quality on Saipan. The project should be completed next February, according to Wen.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center  
Saipan, MP 96950



## INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW/FHWA-15-IFB-002

ISLAND WIDE ROAD MARKING AND SIGNAGE UPGRADE ROUTE 30  
(CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD), PHASE II, PROJECT NO. CM-NH-0030 (011), SAIPAN

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Island Wide Road Marking and Signage Upgrade Route 30 (Chalan Pale Arnold Road), Phase II, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after October 16, 2014 at Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Highway Section.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 5, 2014, 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 12, 2014** to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW/FHWA-15-IFB-002"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **November 21, 2014**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **November 21, 2014**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 21, 2014**, and must be received no later than **December 3, 2014**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **December 4, 2014**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **November 21, 2014**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section **§70-30-3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Gov't Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Ten (210) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the standard Specification for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects, FP03.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/MARTIN C. SABLAN  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director of Procurement and Supply



COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**  
CNMI-OSHA CONSULTATION



1338 Asuncion Drive, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan  
Telephone no. (670)-664-3156/7 • Facsimile no. (670)-664-3158

## FREE CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation Workshops

The CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation Program invites you to this Outreach Session on the following date.

**Saipan**  
**November 5, 2014 at Kanoa Resort, Seaside Hall**  
**from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**Rota**  
**October 31, 2014 at The As Paris Restaurant**  
**from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Workshop Presentation:

- Consultation Visit Process
- Heat Illness Prevention
- Element of an Effective Safety & Health Management Program

For reservation and enrollment, please call our office/cell phone at  
664-3156/7 or 287-7533 or send us an email at:  
[elaine.pangelinan@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.pangelinan@gmail.com)

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center  
Saipan, MP 96950



## REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION 2015-CDA-001-RFQ

### ADA Compliance and Retrofit of the CDA Building, Oleai

Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), are soliciting sealed statement of qualification for the **ADA Compliance and Retrofit of the CDA Building, Oleai**, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with §70-30.3-305 of the regulation.

Prior to being awarded a contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Florence C. Sablan, Executive Director, at (670) 234-5897/5898 or fax (670) 234-6040.

The Request for Proposal and Scope of Work is available on or after October 16, 2014 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan.

A **Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference** is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Commonwealth Development Authority Conference Room on October 31, 2014. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 2:30 p.m. local time **November 07, 2014**.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (résumés and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only sub-consultants may be included in multiple proposals by different primary consultants.

**Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:**

- 1. Qualifications and Experience - 40%**
- 2. Organization and Capacity - 35%**
- 3. Response to Request For Qualification (RFQ) - 25%**
- 4. Fee Proposal**

Sealed proposals must be marked **"2015-CDA-001-RFQ"**. For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, November 14, 2014 to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **November 14, 2014**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 14, 2014** and must be received no later than **November 26, 2014**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All responses to this RFQ should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/MARTIN C. SABLAN  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/MANUEL A. SABLAN  
Executive Director, CDA

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, Procurement & Supply





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Stor 4 Tier  
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Water  
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Turbulent Bicycle  
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Kiddieland  
Disney Cars  
Ride On  
**\$45<sup>95</sup>**



Rose Art 3D  
Create 'N Color  
**\$15<sup>95</sup>**



MD Sports 48" 12-in-1  
Combination Table  
**\$139<sup>95</sup>**



Craftsman 5Gal  
Wet/Dry Vacuum  
**\$59<sup>95</sup>**



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Essentials  
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Cut Shredder  
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# Mock trial coordinator visits high schools

For the last few weeks, High School Mock Trial coordinator Nicole M. Torres has been speaking with high school students on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota about the 2015 Mock Trial competition, slated to be held in late February 2015. Mock trial, annually sponsored by the CNMI Bar Association, Public School System, and NMI Judiciary, is an opportunity for students to learn about the justice system by acting as prosecution and defense attorneys or witnesses in a case.

Among the topics Torres discussed during the presentations was the Judiciary Mock Trial Academy that will be held for the first time in the competition's history. For three days next month, distinguished attorneys will present an overview of courtroom procedures and trial rules to the students.

"The academy is intended to be another resource for students in the initial preparation for the CNMI and national competitions," Torres said. "The Judiciary would like the students to have access to additional training by experienced attorneys, similar to other jurisdictions that have the advantage of mock trial resources at law schools."

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro echoed the purpose of the academy, and thanks Maya Kara, president of the CNMI Bar Association, and Tim Thornburgh, federal programs officer for the CNMI Public School System, for their contin-



Kagman High School students and teacher-coach excited for the 2015 competition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ued support.

In preparation for the competition, Torres requested assistance from CNMI Bar members to serve as coaches and judges. Some schools have started practicing for the competition. Attorneys interested in volunteering may contact Torres at [nmimocktrial@gmail.com](mailto:nmimocktrial@gmail.com) or 236-9800, or CNMI Bar Association executive director Suzanne Steffy at 235-4529.

*(CNMI Judiciary)*



Dr. Rita H. Inos High School students after the presentation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

High School Mock Trial coordinator Nicole M. Torres, who is also a law clerk to Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, gives her Mock Trial presentation.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School students review the Mock Trial brochure.



High School Mock Trial coordinator Nicole M. Torres poses questions to Grace Christian Academy students.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# United inaugurates nonstop Guam-Shanghai flights



**GUAM**—United Airlines inaugurated nonstop service between its Guam hub and Shanghai, China on Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2014, offering a historic opportunity for Chinese passengers to travel on scheduled flights to Guam and the region, as well as creating a new travel destination for the local community. The airline uses Boeing 737-700/800 aircraft to operate the route.

"We are delighted to celebrate the launch of this historic Guam-Shanghai service and add this route to the most comprehensive U.S.-China network," said Sam Shinohara, United's managing director, Business Development-Asia/Pacific. "As Guam's hometown airline, we have been working hard to develop the China market, offering annual charter operations between mainland China and Guam since 2008. We now shift our focus with this scheduled service to build stronger and more sustainable traffic from mainland China to Guam."

"We're thrilled that this inaugural flight from Shanghai represents the first ever scheduled service from mainland China to Guam," said Karl Pangelinan, general manager of Guam Visitors Bureau. "We're also delighted to see the fruits of our involvement, which helped United to push forward into the China market. We thank United for their partnership and look forward to growing Guam's number one industry."

## Inaugural ceremony

The inaugural ceremony was held at Guam's A.B. Won Pat International Airport yesterday morning with the arrival of flight 130 from Shanghai. Customers were welcomed by representatives of the United Guam sales team, Guam Visitors Bu-

Customers from the inaugural flight from Shanghai (UA 130) are welcomed by representatives of the United Guam sales team, Guam Visitors Bureau, A.B. Won Pat International Airport, as well as Miss Guams and Pa'a Taotao Tano'.



reau, government officials, and Miss Guam. The celebration included a water salute, cultural entertainment by Pa'a Taotao Tano' and local refreshments.

## Flight Schedule

Flight UA131 departs Guam's A. B. Won Pat Guam International Airport at 7:45pm on Tuesdays and Saturdays and arrives at Shanghai Pudong International Airport at 10:40pm the same day (all times local). The return flight, flight UA130, departs Shanghai at 11:30pm on Tuesdays and Saturdays and

arrives at Guam International Airport at 5:50am the following day (all times local). Flying times are approximately four hours 55 minutes northbound and four hours 20 minutes southbound.

## United in China

United started nonstop service to China in 1986 and today serves Beijing with non-stop flights from Chicago, New York/Newark, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.; Shanghai with non-stop flights from Chicago, Los Angeles, New

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

York/Newark and San Francisco; and Hong Kong with non-stop flights from Chicago, New York/Newark, San Francisco, Guam, Singapore, and Ho Chi Minh City. In addition, United started three-times-weekly nonstop service from Chengdu to San Francisco in June 2014. United is a founding member of Star Alliance, the world's largest and most comprehensive airline alliance, whose other members include Air China. United and Air China have a bilateral partnership that includes codesharing on selected routes and provides customers with both carriers additional travel benefits such as airport lounge access and frequent flyer program reciprocity. *(United)*

## Procurement And Supply CNMI Government

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**RFP15-OPA-002**

SUBMISSION DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2014      TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“FINANCIAL AUDITS FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND (NMIRF) AND GROUP HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE TRUST FUND (GHLTF), AS COMPONENT UNITS OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2014”**

The audit guidelines and specifications may be picked up at the Public Auditor's Main Office at 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan during normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Ross Zapanta, Analyst Manager, at telephone numbers (670) 322-6481/2 or by facsimile to (670) 322-7812.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ MICHAEL PAI, CPA  
Public Auditor

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, P&S

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122  
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF THE FEDERATED  
STATES OF MICRONESIA,  
Plaintiff,

-v-

JOHN HENRY I. TAGABUEL  
and  
MICHELLE T. IGINOEF,  
aka MICHELLE MARIA I.  
TAGABUEL,  
Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION  
NO. 12-0302

NOTICE OF SALE

## SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 30, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 010 K 77, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 901 square meters, more or less, as more particularly shown on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01, the original of which was recorded August 19, 1987, as File no. 87-2911 at the Office of Commonwealth Recorder.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on Friday, December 12, 2014, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.** The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 21st day of October, 2014:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

## PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

**RFP NO.: RFP15-BECQ-014**

SUBMISSION: DECEMBER 01, 2014      TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“ABANDONED UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLOSURE AND SITE INVESTIGATION – W-2 SERVICE STATION, A PROJECT UNDER THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY”**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 30, 2014 AT THE BECQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE, ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO davidrosario@deq.gov.mp DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. DAVID B. ROSARIO, DIRECTOR OF DEQ AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO davidrosario@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, NOVEMBER 18, 2014. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ FRANK M. RABAUULMAN  
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

## PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

**RFP NO.: RFP15-COTA/FTA-013**

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**“PREPARATION, DESIGN, LAYOUT, PRINTING AND PUBLICATION OF THE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT, A PROJECT UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)”**

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 30, 2014 AT COTA OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR OF THE NMI RETIREMENT FUND BUILDING LOCATED IN CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; PROPOSERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH FTA FEDERAL CONTRACT CLAUSES AS APPLICABLE.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IF IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ THOMAS J. CAMACHO  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S



# Environment

## Electric-car drivers are trading gas for solar power

By DEE-ANN DURBIN  
AP AUTO WRITER

**DETROIT (AP)**—Owners of electric vehicles have already gone gas-free. Now, a growing number are powering their cars with sunlight.

Solar panels installed on the roof of a home or garage can easily generate enough electricity to power an electric or plug-in gas-electric hybrid vehicle. The panels aren't cheap, and neither are the cars. A Ford Fusion Energi plug-in sedan, for example, is \$7,200 more than an equivalent gas-powered Fusion even after a \$4,007 federal tax credit.

But advocates say the investment pays off over time and is worth it for the thrill of fossil fuel-free driving.

"We think it was one of the best things in the world to do," says Kevin Tofel, who bought a Chevrolet Volt in 2012 to soak up the excess power from his home solar-energy system. "We will never go back to an all-gas car."

No one knows exactly how many electric cars are being powered by solar energy, but the number of electric and plug-in hybrid cars in the U.S. is growing. Last year, 97,563 were sold in the U.S., according to Ward's AutoInfoBank, up 83 percent from the year before. Meanwhile, solar installations grew 21 percent in the second quarter of this year, and more than 500,000 homes and businesses now have them, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association.

Tofel, 45, a senior writer for the technology website



Gigaom, installed 41 solar panels on the roof of his Telford, Pennsylvania, home in 2011. The solar array—the

term for a group of panels—cost \$51,865, but after state and federal tax credits, the total cost was \$29,205.

## New report says more effort needed to help combat ocean acidification

By CHRIS ADAMS  
MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

**WASHINGTON**—The federal government needs to pay more attention to what is often referred to as "the other carbon dioxide problem"—the acidification of the oceans—to help stave off widespread damage to seafood, tourism and storm protection, according to a new federal report.

The report from the Government Accountability Office, Congress' watchdog, concluded that federal officials have made some progress implementing a 2009 law on acidification. But they haven't done enough.

For example, the GAO said, an interagency working group chaired by the Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, has been established, as

required. And it has developed a research and monitoring plan that outlines steps to better understand ocean acidification. But the agencies involved have yet to implement several of the law's requirements, including those dealing with the budget necessary to implement a research and monitoring plan.

The GAO concluded: "Until greater clarity is provided on the entity responsible for coordinating the next steps in the federal response to ocean acidification, completing important actions, such as implementing the research and monitoring plan, will be difficult."

Why does it matter?

Left unchecked, the acidification of the oceans could have a major impact on marine species and ecosystems. That, in turn, could disrupt the economy or culture of some commu-

nities—hurting coastal fishing or tourism, for example, the report said.

According to the GAO, scientists estimate oceans have absorbed about 30 percent of the carbon dioxide emitted by humans over the past 200 years. The rise of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is the focus of much of the ongoing climate change debate, and as carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere goes up more carbon dioxide is absorbed by the oceans. It reacts with water to form carbonic acid.

"The current rate of acidification is believed to be faster than at any point in at least the last 20 million years," the GAO said.

That could have an impact on the ability of mollusks—oysters, mussels—to grow shells, and it could hurt coral reefs that help protect coastal communities from storm flooding.

In the first year, Tofel found that the panels provided 13.8 megawatt hours of electricity, but his family was using only 7.59 megawatt hours. So in 2012, Tofel traded in an Acura RDX for a Volt plug-in hybrid that could be charged using some of that excess solar energy. In a typical year, with 15,243 miles of driving, the Volt used 5.074 megawatt hours.

## Emissions drop puts EU just shy of 2020 goal

**COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)**—The European Union's environment agency says the bloc's greenhouse gas emissions dropped by nearly 2 percent last year, putting the EU very close to reaching its emissions target for 2020.

That goal is to reduce emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases by 20 percent compared to 1990 levels.

The European Environment Agency said Tuesday that emissions already have fallen 19 percent, meaning the 28-nation bloc is likely to exceed its target.

The EEA projected that 2020 emissions will be 21 percent or

<sup>AP</sup>  
This July 2014 photo provided by Samuel Avery shows a 2014 Chevy Volt plug in Hart County, Ky. Avery, who is a professional solar installer, built both the garage and panel installation.

Tofel used to spend \$250 per month on gas for the Acura; now, he spends just \$50, for the times when the Volt isn't near a charging station and he has to fill its backup gas engine. Charging the Volt overnight costs him \$1.50, but the family makes that money back during the day when it sends solar power to the electric grid. He estimates that adding the car will cut his break-even point on the solar investment from 11.7 years to six years.

Powering a car with solar energy isn't for everyone. Among things to consider:

**1 SITE**  
A south- or southeast-facing roof is a necessity, and there can't be shady trees around the house. Sam Avery, who installs solar panels in Kentucky through his company, Avery and Sun, says dormers, chimneys and other design features can hamper an installation.

"If people do have a good site, it's usually by chance," he says. "I have to retrofit a lot."

**2 COST**  
The cost of installing solar panels has come down, from \$8 to \$10 per watt eight years ago to \$3 a watt or less now. But it's still a huge investment.

Bill Webster, 39, a graphic designer at a nonprofit in Washington, D.C., paid \$36,740 for his solar array in Frederick, Maryland, three years ago, or around \$3.60 per watt. Tax credits reduced his net cost to around \$20,000.

Before the installation, his family was paying \$1,500 per year for electricity. Now,

he pays \$5.36 per month, the administrative fee for connecting to the grid. That fuels his home and his all-electric Nissan Leaf, which uses around a third of the energy that his solar panels generate. Webster thinks he'll break even on his investment in six years.

Some solar companies offer leasing programs, which let customers pay a fixed monthly cost for panels. There are also some incentive programs; Honda Motor Co. offers \$400 toward the installation of panels through SolarCity, a company that installs them in 15 states.

Buyers also could consider a smaller system just to power a car. A Leaf needs around 4.5 megawatt hours of electricity per year to go 15,000 miles. Eighteen 250-watt panels—a \$13,500 investment at \$3 per watt—would produce that much electricity.

**3 THE CAR**  
For Webster, who has a predictable roundtrip commute of less than 50 miles and lives near a lot of electric charging stations, an all-electric car like the Leaf makes sense. But for Avery, who lives in rural Kentucky, the Volt was the better choice because he needs the security of a backup gas engine.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's fueleconomy website—[www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov)—lists the number of kilowatt hours that a car uses to travel 100 miles, which can help potential buyers calculate their energy needs.

In short, people considering powering a car with solar energy have some math to do. Or maybe they don't. For Avery, the environmental benefit outweighs everything.

"The reason to go solar is not to save money," he says. "The real reason to go solar is that we have to do it."

and of improving energy efficiency by 20 percent.

Nine member states—Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Britain—are on track to meet targets for all three climate and energy policy objectives.

Just last week the EU set new goals for 2030: 40 percent emissions cuts, 27 percent renewables and a 27 percent reduction in energy consumption.

"The current projections for 2030 indicate that further efforts are required at national and EU level to keep the EU on track toward its new 2030 targets," the EEA said.



# Life & Style

## The beauty and oddities of cemeteries around the globe

By **JILL SCHENSUL**  
THE RECORD (HACKENSACK, N.J.)

Cemetery. Burial ground. Memorial park. Boneyard. Whatever you call it—and Edgar Allan Poe had at least 100 phrases for it—they are home to the dead. Final resting place for the once-living and a place for the survivors to come and pay respects.

Now, as thoughts turn to the creepy, the shadowy and possibly the supernatural, cemeteries are becoming the haunts of choice for those in search of a good shiver and tours with scary stories, candlelight and costumes.

I find cemeteries irresistible, and not because they're creepy. I go because they're kind of beautiful, and peaceful, and they're a sort of wilderness of the dead. You never know what might happen or what you might find. You can learn a lot about a place, a time, a culture, from its cemeteries. Reading inscriptions, getting the language of the period, seeing the inexorable march of time across the eroding and smoothing carved markers.

I will never forget the morning I spent in India on the banks of the Ganges, with the acrid smell of pretty foul smoke and incense wafting in the heavy air, as I gazed through the haze down into the muddy river and watched family members carry their sari-wrapped dead into the water on narrow litters, set them on fire and let them drift away.

I remember learning from my guide in Saigon that the Vietnamese don't really celebrate birthdays—many people didn't know the exact date they were born, in fact. Babies all turn a year old on Tet, the first day of the lunar new year. What is much more important, my guide explained, and what is celebrated instead of birthdays, are the dates of death of one's ancestors. The Vietnamese keep a shrine to their ancestors and also visit the cemetery, spending the whole day remembering their relatives.

I visited a cemetery on Memorial Day in Israel. It is the day when every Israeli who has died in war or because of terrorism since the country was established is honored. Families arrived at the cemetery, gathering around the gravesite of a loved one. Some remain all day, with their food, their folding chairs or blankets and a radio to listen as the names of the 26,000-plus deceased are announced.

Then there was that moment in the Buenos Aires cemetery. I was walking slowly down a vault with niches for urns of cremated remains, looking at

the various trinkets, photos, dolls and wedding-cake toppers that were left as symbols of the lives of the departed. Then all at once I came to a niche with a sign on it: "For rent," it said, with a phone number.

Here are a few recent cemetery finds I thought I'd share with you—for this spooky season or maybe sometime in the future:

### FAMOUS LAST WORDS

I love those lists of best funny epitaphs, marking the graves of the famous—"I'll never get out of this world alive" (Hank Williams), and "I am ready to meet my Maker. Whether my Maker is prepared for the great ordeal of meeting me is another matter" (Winston Churchill)—and the average—"I knew this would happen" and "Well, this sucks."

These things take some nerve, I would imagine. After all, these are the last words you'll ever get. I can't remember if I'd ever even seen anything even a little outrageous in my graveyard explorations—until I visited Key West.

At the Key West's Old Cemetery, I hit pay dirt. Or pay granite.

The cemetery was established in 1847 on 19 acres, and today is home to anywhere from 60,000 to 100,000 graves. Nobody is really sure of the number, however, because this isn't your usual well-oiled-machine sort of cemetery. Along with many unmarked graves and lost records is the strange custom to bury people on top of one another. In some cases, the white tombstones are stacked three or four levels high—an arrangement that's the same below ground, too. They've been called condos for the dead. It's all about saving space; one family plot with seven spaces has had at least 28 known burials. Families have even sold "internment rights" to their plots, sort of like those time-share deals offered by Florida condominiums.

But I digress. Back to the words. The most famous odd epitaph here is marble tablet on the Roberts mausoleum in which Pearl Roberts is interred, reading "I told you I was sick." Right above it is the more good-natured plaque for Gloria M. Russell, who assures visitors, "I'm just resting my eyes."

Also popular is the grave of Edwina Lariz, "Devoted Fan of Singer Julio Iglesias."

Allan Dale Willcox's epitaph seems to indicate he was always concerned about others. "If you're reading this," his marker chides, "you desperately need a hobby."

The cemetery has character and gives you an inkling of the



characters who live in Key West, a place that gives all comers the freedom to be themselves.

The cemetery is also distinctively multicultural. There's a gate to the section for Jewish burials, and one for Catholics. The monument to Los Martires de Cuba honors those who fought to free Cuba from Spanish rule during the 10 Years War (1868-1878). Another monument remembers the more than 260 American sailors who died when the USS Maine blew up on Feb. 15, 1898, in Havana Harbor.

There are the Key West movers and shakers as well as those who just scraped by. The Otto family plot includes doctors, pilots and artists—also buried there are three Yorkshire terriers and a domesticated Key deer ("Elfin"). The headstone for Thomas Romer, an African-Bahamian who served in the War of 1812 as a privateer, features

an epitaph that says he was a "good citizen" for 65 years (he lived to be 108, but I guess .602 is a good batting average).

One more quirk of Key West's Old Cemetery. You'll notice footlong, intricately colored and scaled iguanas doing pushups on the graves, on the paths, in the trees. They're harmless (I think) and beautiful. No plebian colony of cats for this town's cemetery!

### MYSTERY AMONG THE MONUMENTS

It's dark. Filthy dark. Towering-trees-and-no-streetlights dark on a fall evening as Halloween approaches. The roads are gravel, the lawns are shot through with big old tree roots, and my flashlight's dead, dead, dead as the 300,000 or so underground inhabitants of Woodlawn Cemetery, the big old spread in the Bronx. My husband gives me his flashlight, that's why I married him.

You need a good flashlight to not fall over anything. But also, if you're kind of afraid of the dark. Even if you're not exactly afraid of the dark, you might start wishing it was a little less dark after listening to a few of the tales of woe and inexplicable postscripts that belong to some of the residents of Woodlawn. Which is exactly what we've come to hear on this night, when Woodlawn offers its two-hour History and Mystery Tour, starting at 7, after the very seriously gothic iron gates have closed for the evening.

We trot past many of the most famous and upstanding citizens, instead getting a gander at Orrando Dexter, whose murder at his Adirondack estate remains unsolved to this day; Olive Thomas Pickford, once the "Most Beautiful Girl in the World," who died of mercury poisoning and, some say, can't stay away from the

JILL SCHENSUL/THE RECORD/MCT  
In this area of Germany near the Dutch border, cemeteries are thought of as gardens, and relatives come to tend the plots of their loved ones. Graves look like small landscapes, complete with gravel pathways, miniature trees, and seasonal flowers. Watering cans are provided at regular intervals throughout the cemetery.

footlights; her ghost still haunts Broadway's New Amsterdam Theater. Then there's Ruth Snyder, the Queens housewife who killed her husband in 1927 and was sent up the river to Sing Sing, where she met her death by electric chair.

Then too, the fine upstanding citizens of Woodlawn, established in 1863 and designated a national historic landmark in 2011, also have spooky tales. Money can't buy happiness, and despite this opulent mausoleum, F.W. Woolworth, the five-and-dime-store magnate, had a life full of misfortune and is now said to haunt his former Long Island estate.

Amid the creepy tales was one really sweet—well, bittersweet—one. That of Isidor and Ida Straus, who owned Macy's and were among the passengers on the Titanic (there's also a monument to all those who perished). When the call came for women and children first to board the lifeboats, Ida stayed put. Isidor urged his beloved wife of 41 years to get on a lifeboat, but she wasn't going to leave him. Straus, 67, was also offered a seat in one of the lifeboats, but said he wouldn't leave until all the women and children had been safely taken away. So Ida stayed on the ever-more-listing deck with him. "We have lived together for many years," she said. "Where you go, I go." She removed her fur coat and gave it to her maid, Ellen Bird, who was seated in the lifeboat.

The last they were seen, they had been fiercely holding hands, like an old, devoted married couple. Isidor Straus is buried next to his wife's empty tomb—her body was never found. Their mausoleum is shaped like a ship—more Egyptian style than Titanic—and it bears the inscription: "Many Waters Cannot Quench Love—Neither Can the Floods Drown It." (See, that's why I love cemeteries.)

The tales were fun, but the darkness, the glimpses of shadowy weeping angels and especially the glints from the stained glass in mausoleum doors that made me think

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# Ancient shipwreck discovered near Aeolian Islands

**GAINESVILLE, Florida** (AP)—The divers descended 410 feet (125 meters) into dark Mediterranean waters off Italy, their lights revealing the skeleton of a ship that sank thousands of years ago when Rome was a world power. A sea-crusted anchor rested on a rock. The ship's cargo lay scattered amid piles of terra cotta jars, called amphora.

Highly trained technical divers with a Florida-based group called Global Underwater Explorers—GUE for short—are helping Italian researchers to unlock an ancient shipwreck thought to date to the second Punic Wars between Rome and Carthage. Able to descend hundreds of feet (meters) further than most divers, they aide the archaeologists by swimming about the wreck fetching artifacts—as no robotic submersible can.

On this dive, they swam past the large amphora used to carry wine, olive oil and other cargo on Mediterranean trade routes centuries ago—feeling as if they were transported to another time.

“It felt very much like a ghost ship awaiting the boarding of ancient mariners,” said Jarrod



In this undated photograph provided by Global Underwater Explorers, divers illuminate Greco-Roman artifacts of a ship that sunk during the Punic Wars between 218-201 B.C., in the Mediterranean Sea, off the Aeolian Island of Panarea near Italy.

Jablonski, one of the divers with the Florida exploration group.

Many of these divers honed their deep-water diving abilities in Florida's labyrinths of underwater caves. Now GUE provides the technical divers needed access to cargo and other artifacts from a ship thought

to have sailed around 218-210 B.C.—when Rome and Carthage were fighting for naval superiority in the Mediterranean.

Called the Panarea III, the ship was discovered off the Aeolian island of Panarea in 2010 by American researchers using sonar and a remotely op-

erated submersible in waters about 40 miles (64 kilometers) north of Sicily.

Archaeologists said the ship is a wooden vessel about 50 feet (15 meters) long that could have hit rough seas and broken up on rocks before plunging to the sea bottom—possibly a wealthy merchant's cargo ship or one used to supply the Roman military.

“This shipwreck is a very important occasion to understand more about daily life on the ancient ship as well as the real dynamics of ancient trade,” said Sebastiano Tusa, an Italian archaeologist who is studying the site. “Of course, there are other similar shipwrecks that can offer similar study cases. But this has the peculiarity to be in a very good preservation condition.”

The ship was so far underwater that it has been safe for centuries from looters and entanglement in fishing gear.

As Jablonski and seven other GUE divers explored the wreck in September, Italian archaeologists shadowed them in a small submarine, shining a bright light on the trove of Greco-Roman artifacts. As researchers in the sub pointed to objects, the divers retrieved them, swimming to the sub's window for viewing. A thumbs-up, and the items were attached to balloons and sent to the surface.

At such depths, diving is tricky work.

Nitrogen becomes increasingly toxic to humans below 100 feet (30 meters). Divers below 200 feet (60 meters) experience feelings similar to becoming drunk, making work-

ing with tools or fragile objects clumsy. But the GUE divers use specially prepared mixes of gases, which eliminate the problem of diving so deep. But the gases must be balanced carefully at each depth, or they could die or become extremely sick.

The divers must slowly descend. They can only work for about 30 minutes before making a 4-to-5 hour ascent to protect against illness.

“Technology hasn't substituted the human hand, with its articulated five fingers, for uncovering and cleaning artifacts,” Jablonski said, explaining why they make these risky dives for researchers.

Archaeologists said the rewards are great despite the risks to the divers.

“The fact that they are diving in that deep water, it is pushing the limits of the technology in a way I welcome very much,” said Felipe Castro, a professor of nautical archaeology at Texas A&M University not with the project.

The divers found many important pieces needed to tell the ship's story, said Alba Mazza, an Italian archaeologist with the University of Sydney in Australia. Of note were the ship's anchor and a sacrificial altar with Greek inscriptions that provide clues to the ship's origin. The size and shape of the amphora help them understand what the ship was carrying.

Experts believe it could have been a supply ship for Roman legions or that it belonged to a wealthy merchant, possibly from the Italian region around Naples, which Mazza described as “very rich and wealthy, with lots of nice wine in that area.”

## Marvel unveils slate of films through 2019

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—“Doctor Strange,” “Black Panther,” “Captain Marvel” and the “Inhumans” are joining the Marvel cinematic universe.

The studio unveiled the titles and release dates of its upcoming superhero films through 2019 during a Tuesday event in Hollywood. The schedule includes a mix of sequels featuring familiar faces and originals focused on Marvel characters that have yet to be introduced on the big screen.

The slate includes “Captain America: Civil War” and “Doctor Strange” in 2016; “Guardians of the Galaxy 2,” “Thor: Ragnarok” and “Black Panther” in 2017; “The Avengers: Infinity War—Part I,” “Captain Marvel” and “Inhumans” in 2018; and “The Avengers: Infinity War—Part II” in 2019.

The movies join next year's “The Avengers: Age of Ultron” and “Ant-Man.”

“When we have information we want to reveal, we reveal it,” Marvel Studios chief Kevin Feige told fans and members of the media on stage at the El Capitan Theatre. “Sometimes that's in a press release, sometimes that's in San Diego Comic-Con—if everything comes together well—and sometimes that's on a random Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the morning.”

At the end of the event, “Get On Up” star Chadwick Boseman was announced as the actor who will portray Black Panther. He joined “Iron Man”

and “Captain America” stars Robert Downey Jr. and Chris Evans on stage for the reveal.

“I'm blessed to be part of this Marvel universe,” Boseman said. “I look forward to making magic together.”

Feige said the character will make his first appearance in “Civil War,” which will pit Captain America and Iron Man against each other. In the comics, Black Panther is the leader of the fictional African nation of Wakanda who becomes a member of The Avengers.

“He is definitively a big part of ‘Civil War,’” Feige said. “We will see him for the first time in ‘Civil War’ in costume.”

“Black Panther” and “Captain Marvel” will mark the studio's first films centered on black and female characters from Marvel comics. Feige said the big-screen iteration of the Captain Marvel character will be Carol Danvers, a U.S. Air Force officer whose adventures take her to space in the comics.

No casting announcements were made for “Captain Marvel,” the sorcery-centric “Doctor Strange” or “Inhumans,” which is about a race of super-beings.

The Marvel films represent an important chunk of the Walt Disney Co.'s portfolio. Feige said the first 10 Marvel films, which kicked off in 2008 with “Iron Man” and “The Incredible Hulk,” have made over \$7 billion.

During a question-and-answer session with the media

following the event, Feige defended the studio's decision not to focus films specifically on the characters of Black Widow and Hulk, who are portrayed by Scarlett Johansson and Mark Ruffalo in “The Avengers.”

“It's about bringing new characters to the screen,” Feige said. “Black Widow couldn't be more important than as an Avenger herself, and like Hulk, ‘The Avengers’ films will be the films where they play a primary role.”

Tuesday's unveiling of the so-called “phase three” of Marvel's film schedule comes two weeks after Warner Bros. announced a slate of 10 films based on DC Comics characters, including “The Flash,” “Aquaman,” “Cyborg,” “Wonder Woman” and “Shazam.”

The full slate of upcoming Marvel films:

■ May 1, 2015: “The Avengers: Age of Ultron.”

■ July 17, 2015: “Ant-Man.”

■ May 6, 2016: “Captain America: Civil War.”

■ Nov. 4, 2016: “Doctor Strange.”

■ May 5, 2017: “Guardians of the Galaxy 2.”

■ July 28, 2017: “Thor: Ragnarok.”

■ Nov. 3, 2017: “Black Panther.”

■ May 4, 2018: “The Avengers: Infinity War—Part I.”

■ July 6, 2018: “Captain Marvel.”

■ Nov. 2, 2018: “Inhumans.”

■ May 3, 2019: “The Avengers: Infinity War—Part II.”

## CEMETERIES

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somebody was in there, alive and maybe watching TV, provided the real spookiness.

### LIFE, RISING FROM THE DEAD

I'd just gone out for an early evening stroll from my hotel in Papenburg, Germany. And this part of town, outside the city center, was charming and unusual enough to keep me busily snapping photos of its little canals, colonnades of trees, even a horse clapping down the cobblestone Main Street.

But then I came upon a relatively huge Catholic church and, past its high walls, a graveyard. In I went.

And before I'd gotten a third of the way down a row of graves, I realized I wasn't just strolling through a graveyard. It had headstones, flowers, statuary, yes. But here, the basic elements had been deftly—you might say obsessively—arranged into a veri-

table botanical garden.

Each plot—they weren't much wider than a single or double burial plot, had been planted and clipped and designed and adorned into, well, a scaled down front or backyard landscape. Some had foot-wide gravel, winding paths leading to a headstone (front door?). Some had hearts inlaid in different colored pebbles. Some had lachrymose miniature trees. Cherubs peered from under hedges. All was well sculptured and shorn. I noticed, then, a large man with a hoe, tending to one of the plots at the end of the row.

That was when I first sighted the watering cans hanging from poles. And stations with big metal basins for doing whatever it is one does when gardening (I not only don't have a green thumb, but the Thumb of Death).

Germans don't simply place flowers at a grave. They plant them. Water them. Prune them.

If they can't do it, they hire a gardener to keep things looking nice.

Cemeteries in Germany are

almost exclusively state- or church-operated, and there are guidelines for what types of plants you can use, what colors of stone, etc.

Maybe it's just as well, then, that in Germany—as in more and more countries in Europe and elsewhere—your plot belongs to you only for a certain period. Maybe 15 to 25 years or so, depending on the location and size of the cemetery. You have the option to renew your lease on the plot, but if you don't, they dig up the remains, put them in a bone heap and let the next deceased person have a go.

While most German cemeteries will have nice gardens, for a mother lode of flora, try Hamburg's Ohlsburg Cemetery. At nearly 1,000 acres, it's the largest cemetery in Europe and the largest park cemetery in the world, featuring 450 species of deciduous trees and conifers; a spectacular collection of rhododendrons that are spectacular when they're in flower; ponds; paths for cyclists and pedestrians; and some rare bird species, including owls.



## Reality TV program 'Big Brother' to debut in China

**BEIJING (AP)**—A Chinese online video site says it is bringing the "Big Brother" reality TV show to China.

Youku Tudou Inc. said a Chinese version of the program will run for 10 weeks early next year and production is due to start soon. It is collaborating with Endemol China, a new operation that has been established in Beijing, according to a statement by both companies on Tuesday.

In "Big Brother," people are filmed living together in a large house in which they have no contact with the outside world.



### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### TV rollout planned for Bush book about his father

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Former President George W. Bush will be back in the public eye as he promotes "41," his upcoming book about his father, former President George H.W. Bush. George W. Bush's interview with CBS newsmen Bob Schieffer will air in two parts on Sunday, Nov. 9: the first on "Sunday Morning," the second on "Face the Nation." An interview with NBC's Savannah Guthrie airs on the "Today" show on Nov. 10. For publication day, Nov. 11, both former presidents will be on "Today" for a discussion with George W. Bush's daughter and "Today" correspondent Jenna Hager. Other appearances by George W. Bush announced Tuesday by Crown Publishers include interviews on the Fox News Channel and NPR and a private event at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Texas.

#### New book of Watergate tapes out next August

**NEW YORK (AP)**—More transcripts of White House tapes from the Richard Nixon administration will be published next August, focusing on 1973, the year the world learned the recordings existed. Houghton

The program began 15 years ago and has been made in Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa and elsewhere in Asia.

Youku Tudou runs two of China's private online streaming sites that attract a young audience and have operated with fewer of the restrictions that state-run TV broadcasters face, allowing them to introduce more varied and foreign content.

However, regulators have signaled in recent months a tightening of control over the industry, including future mandatory approval for foreign TV shows and movies shown online.

Mifflin Harcourt announced Tuesday that the new book will be called "The Nixon Tapes: 1973" and will be edited and annotated by Douglas Brinkley and Luke A. Nichter, who worked on last summer's best-seller, "The Nixon Tapes: 1971-1972." The new transcripts will capture a turning point for Nixon, who had been easily re-elected in 1972. Televised Watergate hearings in 1973 revealed widespread wrongdoing and the startling news that the president had been taping conversations. Nixon ended the recordings, which contained devastating evidence of White House misconduct, in July 1973 and resigned the following year.

#### MTV turning horror movie series into TV

**NEW YORK (AP)**—With Halloween imminent, MTV is ready to "Scream." The network announced Tuesday that it is turning the horror movie franchise into a television series. The goal is to put 10 episodes on the air starting next October. Jill Blotvogel, who worked on the series "Harper's Island" and "Raven-swood," is the executive producer. Cast members include Willa Fitzgerald, Bex Taylor-Klaus, John Karna and Connor Weil.

## Jane Lynch, wife, finalize divorce in Los Angeles

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A judge has finalized Jane Lynch's divorce from her wife more than four years after the couple were married.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Ralph C. Hofer approved the pair's divorce judgment on Monday. The agreement calls for Dr. Lara Embry, a clinical psychologist, to receive half of Lynch's royalties from several entertainment projects, including several seasons of the TV series "Glee."

Lynch and Embry were married on Memorial Day in 2010 in Massachusetts. Lynch filed for divorce in July 2013, citing irreconcilable differences.

The 54-year-old actress has won two Emmy Awards, one for her role as Sue Sylvester on the Fox series "Glee" and another award for hosting the show "Hollywood Game Night."

The judgment was first reported Tuesday by the celebrity website TMZ.



In this Jan. 29, 2012, file photo, Jane Lynch, left, and Dr. Lara Embry arrive at the 18th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards in Los Angeles. AP

## Phil Collins gives vast Alamo collection to Texas

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)**—British pop star Phil Collins on Tuesday handed over his vast collection of artifacts related to the Battle of the Alamo and the Texas Revolution to the state of Texas.

Collins was in San Antonio to donate what's considered the world's largest private collection of Alamo artifacts. It includes a fringed leather pouch and a gun used by Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie's legendary knife and letters from garrison commander William B. Travis.

"There's things in there that will make your mouth drop," Collins said.

The 1980s pop artist and Genesis singer-drummer has joked that he spent all the money he made from music on artifacts related to the 1836 battle in which 1,500 Mexican troops laid siege to 200 Texans.

The collection was given to Texas Land Commissioner Jer-



Phil Collins speaks about some of the historical items he donated items to the Alamo, including a Mexican Army helmet at right on Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2014 in San Antonio. AP

ry Patterson, the state steward of the Alamo who is pushing for a new historical center that would house Collins' collection.

"Texans are deeply indebted to Phil Collins," Patterson said. "He is giving us back our heritage. Now these Texas treasures

need a home where all can see them and study from them and learn about how Texans won our liberty."

Collins, who's a Grammy and Academy Award winner, donated a collection of more than 200 items for display. Five crates

full of artifacts were unloaded from a cargo truck Tuesday.

"This completes the journey for me. I'm 64. When I was 5 or 6 years old, this thing began," Collins said of his fascination with the Alamo.

"My 9-year-old son was saying, 'Why are you going to give it all away, Dad? I thought I was going to have it,'" he said with a laugh.

Patterson said it will likely take at least five years to raise the millions of dollars needed to design and build a center to house and display the collection.

The location of the center will be decided in about two weeks, Patterson said, and will likely charge for admission. The 4.2-acre (1.7-hectare) Alamo grounds are free to the public.

"This collection is coming home and it's going to be very interesting for people to come and see and learn," Collins said. "And this is what it's all about."

## Bride's best friend hesitates to stand up at her wedding

**DEAR ABBY:** My best friend is getting married. She left me a message asking me to be a bridesmaid. Of course I'm honored, but I don't know what to do. I dislike her fiancé. He is disrespectful and mean to her and to their son.

I can't stand up with them and pretend to be happy for her when I think she's making a terrible mistake. I want her to marry someone who will be nice to her. Help!

CONFLICTED IN MINNESOTA

**DEAR CONFLICTED:** If standing up with her will make you feel like a hypocrite, then don't do it. But recognize that if you don't, it will distance you from her. If your friend's relationship is dysfunctional now, just wait until after she and her fiancé are married, because it isn't going to magically get better. This young woman is going to need all the support she can get from her friends in the years ahead.

**DEAR ABBY:** Every year, my children choose to attend Thanksgiving with their in-laws or friends rather than come to our home. Then they ask me to prepare a celebration the day after or another day.

My husband and I feel left out. It's plain that we are considered "second" and the kids come only because they feel guilty. Prepar-

ing a meal is expensive and time-consuming. We would like to celebrate on the actual holiday.

I think we should be treated with more respect. I also feel like telling these ingrates to stay home this year because we have decided to donate our time to a homeless shelter. Your thoughts?

LEFT OUT IN LEXINGTON

**DEAR LEFT OUT:** I can see why your feelings are hurt. In fairness, I think your children should alternate with which in-laws they spend the holidays.

If you would prefer to make or serve Thanksgiving dinner at a shelter, you should do it. Many people volunteer their time during the holidays, and at other times during the year, and find it gratifying. However, when you inform your children about your plans, try to keep the anger out of the tone of your message.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm 11 and my dad is a drug addict. I'm not allowed to have contact with him because of his past choices. People would look down on me if they knew—like my own teacher. She was being snoop at the beginning of the year and asked me a bunch of questions about my family, and now I feel like she doesn't treat me the same.

DISTURBED IN SPOKANE

## DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



**DEAR DISTURBED:** Your father's "past choices" are not your fault, and you should not be blamed or judged for them. If you haven't already told your mother that your teacher questioned you about your family at the beginning of the year, that you answered her honestly and now you feel you are being treated differently because of it, you definitely should. And your mother should discuss this with the teacher because the questions she was asking may have been appropriate.

*For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

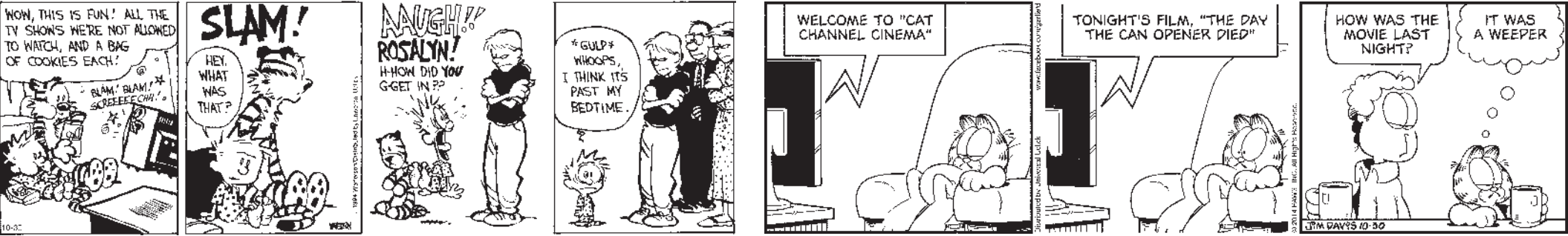


Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

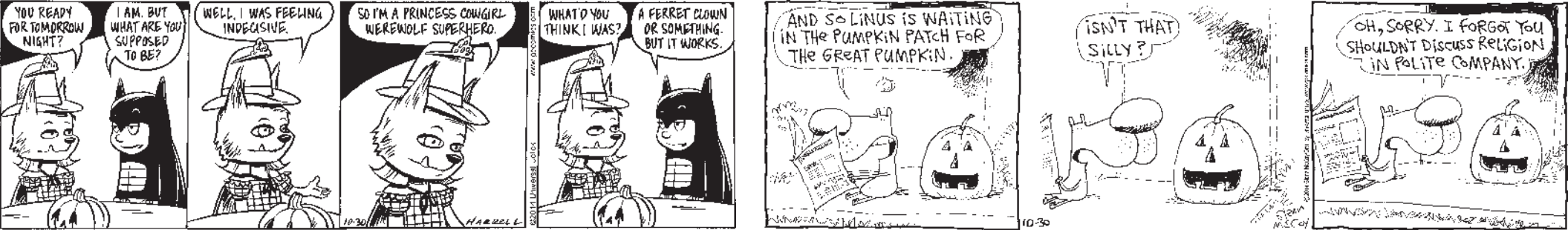
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pickle  
5 Emerald City VIP, familiarly  
8 Gulp down  
12 Great Lake  
13 Exist  
14 Poi base  
15 Pro-tracted  
16 Pitch  
17 List-ending abbr.  
18 Under the wire  
20 Insult  
22 "— Town"  
23 Continental abbr.  
24 Sunup  
27 Plank producers  
32 Cable network  
33 Korean car maker  
34 Erstwhile acorn  
35 "Half-full" believer  
38 Sluggish  
39 Id counterpart  
40 Ecol. grp.

42 Released from jail  
45 List  
49 Caribbean country  
50 Science workroom  
52 Salver  
53 Prayer ending  
54 Bachelor's final answer  
55 Entice  
56 Arp's style  
57 Serenade the moon  
58 Longings

4 Troop group  
5 What to do when you're at the end of your rope?  
6 A Gershwin brother  
7 Nil  
8 Graf of tennis  
9 Napoleon's downfall  
10 Persia, now  
11 Prospector's desire  
12 Press  
13 Greek consonant  
14 Italian river  
15 Oodle  
16 Cougar  
17 Smooth-talking  
18 Verifiable  
19 Deserve  
20 Dark loaves  
21 Okla-homa city

21 Cable-guide abbr.  
24 Pair  
25 Cleopatra's slayer  
26 Undulating furniture  
28 Grafton's "— for Alibi"  
29 1998 Sandler portrayal  
30 Trail the pack  
31 Firmament  
36 Chameleon's cousin  
37 Calendar abbr.  
38 In conclusion  
41 Italian river  
42 Oodle  
43 Cougar  
44 Smooth-talking  
46 Verifiable  
47 Deserve  
48 Dark loaves  
51 Okla-homa city

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-30

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Matthew Morrison, 36; Gavin Rossdale, 49; Harry Hamlin, 63; Henry Winkler, 69.

**Happy Birthday:** You will have a big impact on others. Your insight, fortitude and desire to make a difference will pay off. Not everyone will agree with you, making it vital to weed out who is on your team and who isn't. Building a strong core group will help you reach your goals. Problems are best dealt with pragmatically. Your numbers are 6, 13, 18, 23, 29, 38, 41.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Looking for fights will bring no solace. Being too sensitive or critical will lead to disappointment. Get out and explore avenues of interest that will take your mind off what troubles you. Helping others can heal your despair. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Get involved in helping others and you will feel good about your accomplishments. Love is highlighted by an emotional incident. Turn any negative you face into a positive and keep moving forward without regret. \*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Make positive changes at home by doing some renovations or redecorating. If you opt to do the work yourself and stick to a budget, you'll have money left over to celebrate your accomplishment. Entice someone you love to check out your new digs. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Don't make assumptions—go directly to the source and ask questions. It's better to know the truth than to remain uncertain. If you

need a moment to sort through the information, find a unique place geared toward peace and quiet. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Do whatever it takes to finish what you start. You will be criticized if you don't live up to expectations made by older, more experienced individuals. What you do now can make a difference to what is offered later. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** A greater interest in your background, friendships or community connections will develop if you are a participant. Learning about your past through the eyes of those who have known you a long time will give you the wisdom to make good choices. \*\*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Discuss wastefulness and budgeting with those who affect your standard of living through poor spending habits. Not everyone will be happy with your plan to conserve, but it's a good place to start easing your stress. \*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Ask for support accomplishing your goals. Take a different approach to the way you live and consider whether your current location is good for you. You'll receive stellar advice if you listen to someone with experience and insight. \*\*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Adventure, excitement and new beginnings will occupy your mind. Look for opportunities that will entice you and you will discover new challenges and fresh opportunities. An open mind will lead to an interesting proposal. \*\*\*\*

**EUGENIA LAST**  
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY  
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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Look for an unusual route and you will find your way past an obstacle that's standing in your way. If talks haven't worked lately, you may need to move on and take action. Do your own thing and don't look back. \*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't let anyone stifle your plans or pressure you to do things you don't want to do. Focus on your personal, financial, medical or legal positions. Do whatever will help you stabilize your life and not what someone else demands from you. \*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Get involved in talks that encourage alliances with those heading in the same direction as you. There is much to gain if you put the past behind you and reach out to someone you had a falling out with. Someone you least expect to cooperate with may become your ally. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are strong, independent and helpful. You are insightful and dependable.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★

10/30

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★

**WONDERWORD** By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GNOUCHI Solution: 8 letters

10/30

Bacon, Baked, Basil, Boil, Cheese, Classic, Cook, Cream, Curl, Dinner, Dish, Dough, Dumplings, Eggs, Fill, Flat, Flour, Fork, France, Fresh, Garlic, Grandma, Grooves, Hardy, Ingredients, Italian, Knead, Large, Lemon, Make, Mash, Meat, Pasta, Pesto, Poached, Potato, Ricotta, Ridges, Rolled, Russet, Salt, Sauce, Sausage, Slice, Small, Soft, Soup, Spinach, Squash, Wheat

Yesterday's Answer: Eliminate

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 or 18 can be purchased online for the holidays at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com). (Contain 130 puzzles.)

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



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**Job Vacancy Announcement**  
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Is looking for the following positions:

**(2) Chef/Cook**  
Salary: \$8.00 - \$12.00/hour  
With knowledge of Korean, Japanese, and  
Western Cuisine

**(1) Waitress/Waiter**  
Salary: \$6.05/hour  
Must have related job experience &  
preferably someone who speaks Chinese

Interested applicants, pls. visit  
Hungshun dba Sunshine Garden located  
behind 360 Revolving Restaurant  
or call (670) 235-6667/8

WHATZIT Solution: Hair of the dog

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## REFUNDS

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# Royals rout Giants to force Game 7 in Series



**KANSAS CITY, Mo.**  
(AP)—The raucous roar

at Kauffman Stadium swelled with every batter in the second inning and then got louder the rest of the night.

As bouncers rolled by infielders and bloopers dropped in front of outfielders, it became clear this World Series was headed to a climactic Game 7—just like the one 29 years ago when the Kansas City Royals won their only title.

Lorenzo Cain looped a two-run single—one of eight Royals to get hits in a seven-run second inning—and Eric Hosmer chopped a two-run double over shortstop as the Royals battered the San Francisco Giants 10-0 Tuesday night to tie the Series at three games apiece.

Pitching with the initials of late St. Louis outfielder Oscar Taveras on his cap, 23-year-old rookie Yordano Ventura allowed three hits over seven innings for his first Series win.

“Guys stepped up in a big way tonight,” Cain said.

Jeremy Guthrie starts Wednesday night for Kansas City and Tim Hudson for San Francisco in a rematch of Game 3, won by Kansas City 3-2. Hudson, 39, will become the oldest Game 7 starter in Series history.

Lurking is Madison Bumgarner, ready to pitch in relief after suffocating the Royals on a total of one run in winning Games 1 and 5.

“We’re confident,” the Royals’ Billy Butler said. “Jeremy, every time out, gives us a chance to win.”

Kansas City can be comfortable in this bit of history: Home teams have won nine straight Game 7s in the Series, including the Royals’ 11-0 rout of St. Louis in 1985, since Pittsburgh’s victory at Baltimore in 1979. And the Giants have lost all four of their World Series finales pushed to the limit.

“This club’s so resilient. They’re so tough. They’ll put this behind them,” San Francisco manager Bruce Bochy said. “You’ve come back against the odds, and you can do it again.”

Teams with the home-field advantage have won 23 of the last 28 titles, including five in a row. This Series has followed the exact pattern of the only other all-wild card matchup in 2002, when the Giants won the opener, fell behind 2-1, took a 3-2 lead and lost the last two games at Anaheim.

Ventura escaped his only trouble in the third, when he walked the bases loaded with one out and then got Buster Posey to ground a 97 mph fastball into a double play. Ventura threw fastballs on 81 of 100 pitches, reaching up to 100 mph, and worked around five walks. Roy-



Kansas City Royals’ Mike Moustakas is congratulated after hitting a home run during the seventh inning of Game 6 of baseball’s World Series against the San Francisco Giants Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2014, in Kansas City, Mo.

als manager Ned Yost was able to rest the hard-throwing back of his bullpen: Kelvin Herrera and Wade Davis enter Game 7 with two days off and closer Greg Holland with three.

“This keeps all our big guns fresh and ready to tomorrow,” Yost said.

In a Series marked by blowouts—the first in which five games were decided by five runs or more—Kansas City out-hit the Giants 15-6 Tuesday. All nine Royals had hits by the third inning, matching the mark set by Arizona against the Yankees in Game 6 in 2001.

Cain drove in three runs and was among six Royals with two hits each.

Mike Moustakas homered in the seventh against Hunter Strickland, ending a 36-inning homerless streak in the Series, the longest since 1945.

Peavy’s outing was the shortest for a Series starter since the Yankees’ David Wells got just three outs against the Marlins 11 years ago in Game 5, according to STATS.

Peavy was charged with five runs and six hits in 1 1-3 innings, leaving with a career Series record of 0-2 with a 9.58 ERA in three starts. His record at Kauffman Stadium is 1-7 with a 7.28 ERA.

San Francisco had scored 15 straight runs entering the night, but the Royals bludgeoned Peavy and Yusmeiro Petit in a 32-minute bottom of the second to take a 7-0 lead.

Singles by Alex Gordon and Salvador Perez put runners on the corners, and Moustakas grounded a double over the first-base bag, past Brandon

Belt and down the right-field line for a 1-0 lead.

Peavy struck out Omar Infante and, in the night’s key play, Alcides Escobar hit a bouncer to Belt. With Peavy yelling “Home!” Belt checked Perez at third and then tried to out-race Escobar to first base rather than throw to second baseman Joe Panik, who already was at the base.

Escobar slid past Belt’s failed tag attempt and into first to reach on the infield hit, and Nori Aoki chased Peavy after 42 pitches with a single to left.

Petit, who had pitched 12 scoreless postseason innings coming in, allowed Cain’s blooped single to shallow right and advanced the runners with a wild pitch. Hosmer chopped a ball that hopped over shortstop Brandon Crawford for a double that made it 6-0 and scored on Butler’s double for a 7-0 lead.

Cain added an RBI double off Jean Machi in the third, and Escobar’s run-scoring double in the fifth made it 9-0.

Meanwhile, home teams are 23-3 in Games 6 and 7 combined since 1982. The last eight home teams that won Game 6 to even the Series also went on to win Game 7, and no road team has lost Game 6 and rebounded to win the title since the 1975 Cincinnati Reds at Boston’s Fenway Park.

There was a moment of silence before the game in honor of Taveras, the 22-year-old killed in an automobile accident Sunday in the Dominican Republic. Ventura, a fellow Dominican who knew him well, wrote “RIP O.T. #18” in silver marker on the left side of his cap.

## SIDEBAR

### Peavy, Belt, Giants fall apart

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** (AP)—Jake Peavy and the San Francisco Giants hoped Game 6 of the World Series would result in a parade.

It did, all right—a parade of Kansas City runs.

In the worst outing of his standout career, Peavy watched the Royals march around the bases on their way to an early blowout, routing the Giants 10-0 Tuesday night to force a Game 7.

“It just wasn’t my night. I don’t know what else to tell you,” Peavy said, shaking his head several times.

“It’s hugely disappointing. It’s as disappointing as it can get.”

Always fired-up and vocal on the mound, Peavy walked to the dugout without any expression when he got pulled in the middle of a seven-run second inning that turned on a grounder botched by first baseman Brandon Belt.

On this evening, there wasn’t much for the Giants to say. Not after a series of bloopers, bouncers and broken-bat hits doomed them.

“You’ve got to have a little good fortune in this game,” Peavy observed. “We certainly didn’t have any tonight.”

The one good thing that did happen for manager Bruce Bochy: It was so one-sided early,

he was able to preserve his best relievers for Wednesday night. That bullpen includes ace starter Madison Bumgarner, who has already volunteered to pitch if needed.

A day earlier, Peavy sat at the podium with two of his young sons for a playful news conference. The pitcher was asked whether his family had thought about buying a San Francisco cable car—a real one, as a souvenir—if the Giants won.

Peavy was coy, saying that decision was for another day. But fifth-grader Wyatt whispered in his dad’s ear: “We picked out a trolley car.”

The Royals quickly put the brakes on that purchase.

Now, San Francisco will have to reverse a most daunting trend. Home teams have won the last nine Game 7s in the World Series. The Giants are 0-4 when a best-of-seven Series has been pushed to the limit, most recently when Barry Bonds & Co. lost to the Angels on the road in 2002.

Peavy retired the first two batters of the game, then things unraveled in a hurry. The right-hander wound up escaping a two-on jam in the opening inning, showing no ill effects from a foul ball that rattled into the Giants’ dugout in Game 3 and cut the thumb on his pitch-

ing hand.

“It was fine,” he said.

In the second, it all fell apart.

Mike Moustakas was able to ground an RBI double between a diving Belt and the bag for a 1-0 lead. Alcides Escobar came up with runners on second and third and no outs, and hit a grounder to the right side.

Belt ranged far off the base, looked to see if he had a play at home—Salvador Perez held at third—and then missed his tag on a diving Escobar. Peavy yelled for Belt to check Perez for a possible play at the plate, and the Giants wound up getting no one.

The misplay seemed to open the door for the Royals. Nori Aoki followed with an RBI single, and that was all for Peavy.

“I thought he had pretty good stuff tonight. I did. I know the numbers don’t indicate that,” Bochy said. “If he had a little luck, he probably gets out of that inning. They just hit the ball where we couldn’t get to it.”

The 33-year-old Peavy was charged with five runs and six hits with a walk in just 1 1-3 innings.

“We were making Peavy work. We were making him throw it in the strike zone,” Royals designated hitter Billy Butler said.



# Parker helps Spurs edge Mavs in opener

**SAN ANTONIO** (AP)—Tony Parker made a clutch shot in the fourth quarter. Manu Ginobili had a big game, and Tim Duncan contributed with a double-double.

San Antonio's efficient performance on opening night looked awfully familiar.

Parker made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:07 remaining, and the Spurs began their title defense with a thrilling 101-100 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Tuesday.

Parker finished with 23 points and Ginobili scored 20 for San Antonio, which shot 53 percent from the field. Tim Duncan had 14 points and 13 rebounds for his 14th double-double in a season opener, the most by any player in NBA history, according to Elias Sports.

Dirk Nowitzki gave Dallas a 100-98 lead with a fadeaway jumper over Boris Diaw with 1:37 remaining, but Parker drained a 3-pointer 30 seconds later in front of the Mavericks' bench off a feed from Diaw. Parker was 4 for 4 from long range, matching a career high for 3s in a game.

"It was a great basketball game, you can't kick off the season with a better game than this for the fans - there's no way," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "Unfortunately, the slim margins of winning and losing are all that anybody remembers. If we get one more stop one more basket than we're all him here singing a different tune. That's the world we live in the Western Conference."

Monta Ellis scored 26 points for Dallas, and Nowitzki had 18. Devin Harris finished with



AP  
San Antonio Spurs' Tony Parker, of France, shoots around Dallas Mavericks' Chandler Parsons (25) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2014, in San Antonio. San Antonio won 101-100.

17 points.

Chandler Parsons, who signed with the Mavericks in the offseason, missed a 3-pointer with 0.4 seconds remaining. His shot hit the front of the rim.

The miss extended San Antonio's streak to five wins following a championship celebration, but it was the first since capturing its last title in 2007.

"It's special," Ginobili said.

"I think it helps you actually. Sometimes you don't play that sharp because it's the first game of the season. You have to move from the success of the previous season to the new beginning. But it all gets your emotions up so you want to get out on the court and do a lot of things, hustle, jump, run and win."

Following a video recap of the 2014 season narrated by actor

and Spurs fan Samuel L. Jackson, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver presented San Antonio's staff and players with their championship rings. The inscription inside the ring was "Good to Great," which was coach Gregg Popovich's mantra last season.

## Pelicans 101, Magic 84

In New Orleans, with 7-footer Omer Asik joining 6-10 All-

Star Anthony Davis, the New Orleans Pelicans figured they would have a formidable front-court this season.

It sure looked pretty good on opening night.

Davis and Asik combined for 40 points, 34 rebounds and 14 blocks, and New Orleans beat the Orlando Magic 101-84 on Tuesday.

"We just know that we're a load in that paint - him with his great body and me able to move around, just try to follow the ball and get rebounds," said Davis, who scored 26 points, grabbed 17 rebounds and tied a career high with nine blocks. "It's a good combination."

Tobias Harris scored 25 points and Nikola Vucevic added 15 points and 23 rebounds for the Magic, who never led in the second half.

Asik, acquired from Houston in an offseason trade, finished with 14 points, 17 rebounds and five blocks, which also matched a career best.

Davis and Asik combined for 16 offensive rebounds, and the Pelicans finished with 32 second-chance points.

"They cover up a lot of mistakes that you tend to make just by being aggressive," Pelicans coach Monty Williams said.

Indeed, the Pelicans shot only 40.6 percent (41 of 101) and missed 16 free throws, but still won by 17, something Magic

coach Jacque Vaughn said was "tough to fathom."

"Give them a lot of credit for their aggressiveness and physicality that they played with, their second-chance points and getting to the board," Vaughn added. "It stares you in the face. That was the difference."

## Rockets 108, Lakers 90

In Los Angeles, After Lakers rookie Julius Randle left his NBA debut strapped to a wheeled stretcher with a broken right leg, every player at Staples Center gained a sober perspective on the season opener.

Even ex-teammates Kobe Bryant and Dwight Howard realized their shouting match was particularly inconsequential in the final minutes of the Houston Rockets' blowout win.

James Harden scored 32 points, Howard added 13 points and 11 rebounds before getting into an exchange with Bryant, and the Rockets spoiled Bryant's return to the Lakers with a 108-90 victory over Los Angeles on Tuesday night.

Bryant's comeback game and the Lakers' return from a 55-loss season went from bad to miserable when Randle broke his right leg in the fourth quarter. The seventh overall pick out of Kentucky collided with two Rockets under the basket and landed awkwardly, collapsing to the court in agony.

## SIDEBAR

### Hornets' Walker gets 4-year, \$48M extension

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)**—The Charlotte Hornets have agreed to a four-year, \$48 million contract extension with point guard Kemba Walker, a person familiar with the deal said Tuesday night.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because the deal had not been announced publicly. The person said deal takes effect beginning in the 2015-16 season, meaning Walker will be under contract through the 2018-19 NBA season.

Hornets owner Michael Jordan indicated earlier Tuesday the team was eager to finalize a deal with Walker before Friday's deadline to prevent him from becoming a restricted free agent in July.

In three seasons Walker has started 180 games and averaged 16 points, 5.5 assists and 1.4 steals per game for Charlotte. He has averaged 17.7 points per game in each of the last two seasons.

Jordan said Tuesday before the deal was signed that he expects Walker, Al Jefferson and recently signed Lance Ste-

phenson will play key roles in the future of the organization.

Jordan was impressed with Walker when he led Connecticut to the 2011 national championship and Charlotte selected him with the ninth overall pick. He split time with D.J. Augustin as a rookie before taking over as the full-time starter in 2012.

Coach Steve Clifford has raved about the work Walker has put in this offseason, saying he has went above and beyond looking to improve his 3-point shooting and jump shot.

The 24-year-old Walker improved late last season as a passer and helped the Hornets win 43 games and reach the playoffs as the No. 7 seed in the Eastern Conference.

"I think Kemba will shoot better from long range," Clifford said at the team's media day earlier this month. "Last year, he was a little over 33 percent. If he can get to 36 or 37 percent, which I think he can, that'll make him a different player. His defensive improvement was terrific."

## Cowboys awaiting word on latest Romo back injury



**IRVING, Texas** (AP)—Tony Romo's dramatic return from his latest back injury doesn't mean he is cleared to face the next opponent.

Coach Jason Garrett said Tuesday that Dallas was waiting on additional testing for an injury he says is unrelated to the herniated disk Romo sustained in Washington last December, when surgery kept him out of a season-ending loss to Philadelphia with a playoff berth on the line.

Romo hurt his back against the Redskins again Monday night, getting what Garrett called a contusion on a third-quarter sack. X-rays were negative, and Romo took a pain injection before returning for the final series of regulation and a failed possession in overtime of a 20-17 loss that snapped Dallas' six-game winning streak.

After saying on his radio show earlier in the day that he anticipated Romo being

ready to face the Cardinals (6-1), Garrett was more evasive when he met with reporters. The coach said Romo "seemed good" when they spoke by phone, but he hadn't seen the quarterback before Romo went for a CT scan.

The Cowboys (6-2) were off Tuesday, and Romo has skipped the Wednesday practice every week during the regular season as part of his post-surgery routine. He had a procedure to remove a cyst from his back in April 2013 and missed all the offseason workouts last year.

"We've just got to wait and see how he feels, obviously," Garrett said. "Because we played late last night, we'll be more abbreviated anyway, more of a jog through-type mode."

Garrett said it was a medical decision to allow Romo to return, but didn't discount the resolve of a quarterback who led a comeback victory over the Redskins while playing with

the herniated disk and did the same thing against the 49ers in 2011 with cracked ribs and a punctured lung.

Romo didn't even come close to a rally this time. The last drive of regulation, starting at the Dallas 3, stalled after one first down. The game ended in the extra period on a four-and-out sequence when the Cowboys couldn't convert second-and-2 on three straight pass plays.

"He's been in this kind of situation before and played very well," Garrett said. "He's very credible. He's mentally and physically tough. He seemed capable of doing what we asked him to do on the sidelines. I think we made the right decision. Unfortunately it didn't work for us."

The Cowboys scored on both possessions Romo missed, with backup Brandon Weeden getting a boost on his first snap from Murray's 51-yard run to set up a field goal. Weeden then led an 80-yard drive capped by

a 25-yard touchdown pass to Jason Witten.

Garrett dismissed the notion of whether he considered sticking with Weeden once owner Jerry Jones delivered the news to him on the sideline that Romo would be able to return.

"Tony is our starting quarterback, so there's no discussion there," Garrett said. "If Tony was capable of playing and if Tony was functional and able to play, Tony was going to go back in when he was ready to do so."

And Romo didn't think the injury had anything to do with a closing sequence that included his fifth sack and an intentional grounding penalty on third-and-1.

"I think it was their defense on the last series or two that affected it more than anything else," Romo said. "They had the right call on a couple times that took away what we wanted."

The question now is whether the Redskins took away Romo for another game, or longer.



# Officials: Renovate Oleai track first before bidding

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



Oceania Athletics Association officials are hoping that the resurfacing of the

Oleai track facility will finish soon so they could entertain Saipan's bid for hosting the 2017 Micronesian Athletics Championships.

OAA executive director Yvonne Mullins discussed plans of renovating the track with Northern Marianas Sports Association officials when she and OAA president Geoff Gardner, vice president Trevor Spittle, and treasurer Titana Juventin visited Saipan early this month. NMA and Northern Marianas Sports Association then responded to the call for repairing the facility by announcing the availability of the Community Development Block Grant from the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. The grant will be used for the resurfacing of the track and replacement of the 4-foot fence at the southern boundary of the Oleai Sports Complex. NMSA is in the process of completing the paperwork needed to secure the release of the fund.

Mullins said OAA is expecting the resurfacing of the track to finish sometime in early 2015.

"Hopefully renovation would start soon so we could consider Saipan as host of the Micronesian regionals," Mullins said.



lins said.

Mullins is also advising the public not to use the track for it is still unsafe with all the black patches and bubbles in most parts of the decades-long facility.

Besides Saipan, three other

OAA member federations in Micronesia also expressed interest in bidding for the hosting rights of the biennial athletics event. Mullins said Guam, Palau, and Pohnpei are also interested to bring the regional competition at their

own backyard.

"Saipan will have tough competitions. Pohnpei has a brand new track and Guam has a couple of new tracks. They are potential hosts also," added Mullins.

Mullins said Saipan has

hosted really good events in the past and OAA believes it is capable of handling another big competition, like the Micronesian championships.

However, everything is put on hold as of the moment because of the condition of the

Northern Marianas Athletics need to repair first the damages at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility before making a bid for the 2017 Micronesian Athletics Championships.

track facility.

She said that resurfacing of the track needs to be done before the Northern Mariana Athletics submits a formal bid.

"Saipan is interested in bidding to host the 2017 area championships. But for them to bid, the track needs to get the Level II certification. It used to have that and NMA just needs to get the certification back," Mullins said.

Gardner added the OAA welcomed the idea of Saipan hosting the 2017 event. "It will be great for CNMI athletics and OAA loves to come here for events. Saipan has shown it can handle not only the regional championships, but also the Oceania Championships."

"We expect to see a new track here in the next six to eight months. It will give Saipan the assurance when it bids to host the 2017 Micronesian Championships," Gardner added.

The OAA president said once the resurfacing of the track is completed, the NMA could also bid to bring the Oceania Championships on Saipan and it could be a dry run for the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

"OAA will offer support we can give all the way to the Mini Games. We love coming here. It is a great venue—it has great people."

## MP

From Page 28

out the match to secure the shut-out win.

After its morale-boosting win over the then unbeaten University of Batangas, MP United had more gas left on its tank, as it zoomed past Iriga City-US-ANT. Again, Unsa, who scored MP United's first two goals in their two previous victories, was unstoppable on offense, as he nailed a hat-trick against Iriga City. Jehn Joyner and Ryu Tanzawa registered the two other goals for MP United, which

will face the formidable Ateneo De Manila University in the semifinals today. The other Cup Playoffs pairing will feature Far Eastern University Diliman and University of Batangas. Only the top team in each of the three pools gained semis entry, while the fourth Final Four berth was awarded to the second best team from the combined three groups.

Meanwhile, in the U14 division, MP United ruled Group A to march into the semifinals, too.

MP United's 14 crew forced draws in its last two games to remain unbeaten in the five-

team field. The club first drew FC Forza Academy, 0-0, in the morning match and then tied FC Nasugbu in the afternoon tiff, 1-1. Sun Joon Tenorio scored the equalizer for MP United, bringing his goals total so far to three.

Tenorio and company finished the pool play with a 2-2-0 win-draw-loss record for 8 points to place ahead of FC Nasugbu, which gained 5 points from its 1-2-1 card.

According to MP United U14 team manager Lydia Tan, the club is likely to face Don Basco College Canlubang in the semifinals.

## GALANG

From Page 28

and bronze medals.

"I was already able to beat a lot of pros from Japan when I placed fourth. I was really surprised that I finished fourth but they showed me the scorecards and I saw it first hand," said Galang, who is now in the Army Reserve.

Chom Star Gordon joined Galang and Tomokane in Guam as she competed in the Bikini division, while Jun Riodique and Tristan Ecalnea pulled out as the former failed to get clearance from his work, while the latter decided to join

his family in Tennessee.

Close to 70 competed in the different categories of the Guam tournament with 30 coming from Japan alone.

"At least we made it to the Top 10. It was a very humbling experience that we were able to compete in Guam. It is an eye opening on our part and it has given us a lot of aspects (in bodybuilding contest) that we didn't know and not familiar with," Galang said.

"It has helped us get the experience we needed in an international competition setting. This is my second time to compete but first in an off-island tournament," added Galang,

who finished second to Vince Aldan in the 2014 Dee Clayton Classic's Open Physique division on Saipan last September.

Galang said he will again join next year since he is still young and has more room for improvement.

"I've been lifting and training for four years now. I started in late 2010 when I was stationed in Iraq and now it became part of my lifestyle and my passion," Galang said.

He added the pros who joined the tournament in Guam were also supportive and even gave them tips.

"The pros were all supportive and we thought that

## SAIPAN

From Page 28

a second after third placers Yap (2:45.3). Guam's Taotao Galaide 1 (2:38.7) ruled the event, while Guatdan Tasi ended up two seconds behind (2:40.7).

Saipan MOC then placed sixth overall out of 11 teams in the finals of the 12-mile race, crossing the finish line at 1:54:58.5. Taotao Galaide 1 topped the event (1:52:21.8), while Hong Kong United (1:53:09.1) and Guatdan Tasi (1:53:36.9) ended up second

and third, respectively. "We're happy with our performance since we didn't expect it. We're just a new club and it was formed for the purpose of this competition. Somehow, we over-achieved," added Manning, who moved to Saipan from San Diego. Manning said Saipan MOC trains three times a week in the waters off the Civic Center Beach but after competing in Guam the team will take a break. "We do sprints during weekdays after work and long dis-

they will be unwelcoming and snobbish, that kind of stigma that they are pros and we're first timers. But they are not like that. Especially the Guamanians, they were excellent hosts and very welcoming. They were surprised that Saipan competed," he said. "The pros taught us a lot of new techniques on cutting weight, what we should do when we're cutting weight for more definition and what we should do when we're trying to gain more muscle mass."

Galang added that overall they had fun competing in this year's edition of the annual tournament.

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Manning said Saipan MOC trains three times a week in the waters off the Civic Center Beach but after competing in Guam the team will take a break.

"We do sprints during weekdays after work and long dis-

"We were able to gain more knowledge and got a taste of international competition and lifestyle of lifting and living healthy. The pros told me that if I just keep training, stick to my program and look for new techniques I can excel in the sport," he added.

Galang noted that most of the Japanese pros are paid and supported by their sponsors just to compete.

"Most of them have been lifting 10 to 15 years now. They are getting paid just to advertise the products they use. It is sort of an advertisement and marketing strategy. That's why training and lifting are the

tance every weekend. We paddle long distances and in between we also cross train," said Manning, who is joined on the team by Joe Ayuyu, Steven Beyer, Bobby Cruz, Darrel Gallardo, Jack Kabiriel, James Lee, Shawn Manglona, and Eric McDuff.

In other results, Saipan junior boys' team Holokahi swept all three events: 500m (2:46.1), 1,000m (6:16.3) and 6-mile (30:34.5), while Saipan PC placed second in the 500m (2:53.9) and 1,000m (6:18.7), and third in the 6-mile race (3:55.0).

only things they do. And they are ripped to the max," he said.

"There's one competitor from Japan, Akira Hama, he is more than 40 years old and he's been lifting and competing for a very long time," said Galang, whose weight range from 138 to 140 lbs. during competition but reaches 155 in the offseason.

"Aaron is at 160 lbs when he competes but his weight could reach 175 during the offseason. We bulk up during the offseason. That's when we eat a lot in trying to gain more muscle mass and we cut weight before each competition," Galang ended.



# CUC edges Saipan Ice, keeps playoff hopes alive

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
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REPORTER



Commonwealth Utilities Corp. remained in contention for a playoff spot in the 2014 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League after nosing out Saipan Ice & Water, 72-71, last Monday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

With the close victory, CUC gained a 3-4 record for sixth place in the team standings, pending the results of last night's double-header. CUC is slightly ahead of Saipan Ice (2-4) and winless teams Top Development, Inc. (0-5) and Docomo Pacific (0-6), which are the two squads likely to get the early boot in the nine-team field. Only the Top 6 teams after the round-robin elimination will advance to the playoffs with the Top 2 automatically moving into the semis and the Nos. 3 to 6 squads battling for the two remaining Final Four seats.

CUC escaped with the crucial win after getting split free throws from John Santos and Iramk Simada in the homestretch, while Saipan Ice missed a chance to steal the win when Jerome Norita muffed a desperation trey at the buzzer.

It was a sorry loss for Saipan Ice, which controlled majority of the match and was still ahead by eight, 56-48, entering the fourth quarter.

CUC overhauled the deficit with Santos teaming up with Simada and

Frank Mizutani in bringing their team back into the game. Santos scored 9 points in the fourth canto, Mizutani added 6, and Simada chipped in 5. Both Mizutani and Simada also hit important charities in the final canto, while Robert Lieto also helped CUC's cause, making back-to-back field goals in the closing minutes of the match.

Norita, on the other hand, was held scoreless in the final half of the fourth frame after drilling three straight baskets at the start of the last canto. He still finished with a game-high 40 points, but with Saipan Ice absorbing its fourth loss, the team is pressed to prevail against Public School System (4-2) tonight and versus McDonald (3-3) on Nov. 3 to stay in the playoff hunt.

Meanwhile, Joeten is assured of a slot in the six-team playoff round and boosted its chances for the remaining outright semis berth after a 91-64 rout of Docomo last Friday.

Joeten, pending the results of its game against Top Development last night, improved its record to 5-2 for a share of the second spot with MBI/Anchor, which was also scheduled to play yesterday against slumping McDonald's. Joeten is battling the last automatic semis ticket against PSS and MBI/Anchor, while unbeaten Shirley's (6-0) took the first Final Four seat.

Joeten set up the rout against Docomo after pulling away in the second quarter. Docomo was still

in the game after the first period down by only five, 14-19, when Joeten went on a 25-16 scoring surge to take the double-digit lead at the break, 44-25. Kevin De Leon, Alex Lauron, and Syl Teregeyo joined forces in the breakaway, scoring 6 points each.

Teregeyo went on to top-score for Joeten with his 20 points, while Tony Diaz led Docomo's losing cause, firing a game-high 27 markers.

## FRIDAY

**Joeten 91** – Teregeyo 20, Sam-bile 14, De Leon 11, Kwon 11, Lauron 9, Tobias 7, Borja 2, Jacob 2, Tudela 2, Teo 1.

**Docomo 64** – Diaz 27, Sablan 9, Hayes 9, White 9, Sanciangco 8, DeLeon Guerrero 4, Sanchez 1.

Scoring by quarters: 19-14, 44-29, 68-49, 91-64.

## MONDAY

**CUC 72** – Santos 23, Benavente 11, Simada 10, Mizutani 9, Lieto 8, Nunez 2, Camacho 2, Masga 2.

**Saipan Ice 71** – Norita 40, Santy 14, Kaipat 9, Villanueva 4, Cayad-ing 2, Pangelinan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-18, 33-38, 48-56, 72-71.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Robert Lieto goes up for a reverse layup against Docomo Pacific's Jaynard White during an earlier game in the JP World caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



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**Royals rout  
Giants to force  
Game 7 in  
Series**  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports

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Saipan Ice,  
keeps playoff  
hopes alive**  
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**28** THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# MP United enters semifinals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**M**P United Football Club boosted its title bid in the 2014 Pilipinas Cup as it barged into the semifinals of both the U14 and U17 age groups yesterday at Nuvali Evolving Field in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

The club's U17 squad sealed a seat in the Cup Playoffs after sweeping its pool play games in Group C. The Norman Del Rosario-coached team played back-to-back games yesterday and kept its perfect record (4-0) after dominating University of the Batangas in the morning match, 3-0, and Iriga City-US-ANT in the afternoon tiff, 5-1.

Tanapon Unsa drilled twin goals in MP United's blanking of University of Batangas, including a corner kick in the first half, while Enrico Del Rosario recorded the other goal off a header right in the third minute of the match. MP United posted all three goals in the first frame and played relentless defense to shut down Batangas.

Before facing MP United,



Batangas won its first three matches and was expected to give the Saipan-based team a run for its money. However, MP United proved to be ready for the challenge, as it attacked early in the game and stood its ground on defense all through-

**See MP on Page 26**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Enrico del Rosario, left, seen here stepping in for defense during their game against Manila Soccer Academy last Tuesday, scored on a header against University of Batangas in their U17 division game in the 2014 Pilipinas Cup yesterday in at the Nuvali Evolving Field in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, Philippines.



## Galang humbled by experience in Guam



By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

A humbling experience.

This is how Gerald Galang sums up his experience competing in the 2014 Michelob Ultra Bodybuilding & Body Fitness Championship and International Invitational last Saturday at the Leo Palace Resort in Yona.

The 22-year-old former Army personnel placed fourth out of 13 competitors in the short class (5-feet-5 and under) while his cousin, Aaron Tomokane, finished eighth among 13 participants in the tall division (5-feet-5 above).

Japan had a 1-2 finish in Galang's category with Guam taking third, while in Tomokane's division, a local bet topped the category with two Japanese settling for the silver

**See GALANG on Page 26**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Gerald Galang poses for the judges during last Saturday's 2014 Michelob Ultra Bodybuilding & Body Fitness Championship and International Invitational at the Leo Palace Resort in Yona.

## Saipan MOC overachievers in Micro Cup

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

For a team that was formed a few months before the 2014 Micronesia Cup outrigger canoe race at the Agana Bay in Hagåtña in Guam over the weekend, placing third against 15 other squads that trained longer is already an

achievement.

That's why members of the Saipan Marianas Outrigger Canoe were surprised to find out that their two-month training paid off when the nine-member crew figured prominently against strong teams from Guam, Hong Kong and Palau. The Dino Manning-coached Saipan MOC was

one of five CNMI teams that competed in the weekend event, joining Saipan Paddling Club, junior squads Holokahi and Saipan PC, and one women's crew.

"We joined three events—500m and 1,000m Open men's sprints, and the 12-mile men's Open long distance—and we were in the mixed in three considering that we practiced less than two months," said Manning in a telephone interview Wednesday night.

Saipan MOC, which topped the 1,000m preliminaries with a time of 5:43, took third place honors, clocking in at 5:45.8 in the finals behind AT Melgot (5:42.6) and Tao-tao Galaide 1 (5:44.7). They finished fourth in the 500m finals (2:45.9) 0.6 tenths of

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Members of the Saipan Marianas Outrigger Canoe celebrate after placing third in the men's Open 1,000m sprint in the 2014 Micronesia Cup outrigger canoe race at the Agana Bay in Hagåtña in Guam over the weekend.

